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Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-seventh session from 1 to 12 May 2017. The review of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was held at the 7th meeting, on 4 May 2017. The delegation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was headed by the Minister of State, Ministry of Justice, Sir Oliver Heald. At its 14th meeting, held on 9 May 2017, the Working Group adopted the report on the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

2. On 13 February 2017, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Albania, Ethiopia and Mongolia.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/27/GBR/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/27/GBR/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/27/GBR/3 and Corr.1).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Czechia, Germany, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States of America was transmitted to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland confirmed that it represented the United Kingdom, the Crown dependencies and the British Overseas Territories.

6. With regard to the decision to leave the European Union, or "Brexit", it noted that the Government had published a white paper on 30 March 2017, on its approach to converting existing European Union law into domestic law on the day that the United Kingdom left the European Union. The Government had also made clear that it had no plans to withdraw from the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (European Convention on Human Rights). The delegation stated that it was clear that rights and liberties had been protected in United Kingdom law long before the Human Rights Act had been passed in 1998 and they would continue to be protected in the future.

7. It indicated that progress had been made since its last universal periodic review in 2012, in several areas. The delegation reaffirmed the commitment of the United Kingdom to human rights.

8. Regarding the third cycle of the universal period review, the delegation emphasized that it hoped to make constructive recommendations on modern slavery, a global problem.

9. The delegation stated that in developing its national report, the Government and also the devolved administrations had consulted with civil society and the national human rights institutions and the dialogue had been very constructive. The Government had also

reviewed all the recommendations from 2012 and had updated the State's position to bring its categorization into line with the Human Rights Council's accepted classification of either "supported" or "noted".

10. Responding to advance questions, the delegation indicated that proposals to make abortion available to women carrying a fetus with a fatal abnormality had been presented to the Northern Ireland Assembly in 2016 but the measure had been defeated; it was anticipated that work on reform of the law would continue after the election and the formation of a new Northern Ireland Executive. Any legislative reform would, however, be subject to the will of the Northern Ireland Assembly. Regarding the establishment of a historical investigations unit, it indicated that the Government would continue to work with Northern Ireland parties, victims' groups and other stakeholders to seek a resolution that would allow the Stormont House Agreement bodies to be established.

11. On corporal punishment, the Government had stated that it did not condone any violence towards children and had clear laws to deal with it, and that the "reasonable chastisement" defence could not be used when someone was charged with assault causing actual or grievous bodily harm, or with child cruelty.

12. Regarding children in the armed forces, the Government saw the recruitment of individuals between the ages of 16 and 18 as offering a range of benefits to the individual, and stressed that personnel under the age of 18 were not deployed on any operation outside the United Kingdom except where the operation did not involve personnel becoming engaged in, or exposed to, hostilities.

13. The delegation stated that its counter-terrorism legislation and measures complied with international human rights obligations and were closely scrutinized by the United Kingdom Parliament.

14. Regarding hate crime, the State had a strong legislative framework to tackle it, including criminal offences and the Hate Crime Action Plan 2016.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

15. During the interactive dialogue, 94 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

16. Georgia acknowledged progress achieved in various areas related to children's rights, including the adoption of a number of laws and the strengthening of policy measures.

17. Germany particularly welcomed the lively public discourse on ongoing challenges, and the active participation of civil society in the universal periodic review process.

18. Ghana encouraged the Government to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

19. Greece welcomed in particular the noteworthy efforts to tackle human trafficking and modern-day slavery.

20. Guatemala was concerned about the reports that Gypsies, Travellers and the Roma continued to be discriminated against to a large extent and had access to fewer opportunities.

21. Haiti wished the Government and its people a satisfactory outcome during the Brexit negotiations.

22. Sierra Leone commended the efforts to tackle domestic violence effectively through the Modern Slavery Act and the Child Trafficking Protection Fund and expressed its thanks for the assistance provided during the Ebola crisis.

23. Hungary welcomed the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and the Hate Crime Action Plan 2016.

24. Iceland welcomed the Hate Crime Action Plan and the low gender pay gap.

25. India encouraged the continuation of efforts for intercultural understanding and curbing of the negative stereotyping of minorities, and expressed concern regarding the scrapping of the Human Rights Act 1998.

26. Indonesia commended improvements in women's rights, including reducing domestic violence, but was alarmed at the implementation of the Terrorism Act.

27. The Islamic Republic of Iran was concerned at the continued discrimination against minorities, women of black origin and migrant domestic workers, and at the new counter-terrorism measures.

28. Iraq welcomed the introduction of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and the Hate Crime Action Plan. It noted the non-incorporation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination into domestic law.

29. Ireland regretted that the United Kingdom had changed its position on some recommendations from the previous review. It welcomed the commitment to establish the comprehensive institutional framework to address the legacy of the troubles in Northern Ireland.

30. Israel commended the United Kingdom for assigning due importance to the fight against hate crimes and for undertaking to find the right balance between the fight against terror and respect for human rights.

31. Italy took note of the human rights framework and welcomed the measures adopted since the previous review.

32. Japan noted the increase in hate crimes since the June 2016 referendum on leaving the European Union. It commended the monitoring of detention facilities through the national preventive mechanism.

33. Kazakhstan expressed hope that the British bill of rights would not weaken the existing framework and welcomed efforts to combat violence against women, trafficking and slavery.

34. Kenya requested the United Kingdom to ensure that the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child would be integrated into national legislation and policies.

35. Kyrgyzstan noted that race remained the most commonly recorded motivation for hate crimes, and that following the referendum on European Union membership there had been an increase in online hate crime and in anti-migrant attacks.

36. Armenia commended the commitment by the United Kingdom to advance gender equality and combat violence against women, and welcomed measures to tackle discrimination.

37. Libya appreciated the constructive participation in the review and commended the efforts of the United Kingdom to improve its human rights record.

38. Liechtenstein welcomed the measures taken to promote positive parenting and alternative forms of discipline. It noted that the United Kingdom was taking measures to reform privacy and surveillance laws.

39. Malaysia noted progress in addressing domestic violence and support for victims of human trafficking under the Modern Slavery Act 2015. It noted that racially aggravated crime was on the increase.

40. Maldives noted the commitment by the United Kingdom on measures taken by the Government to implement previous universal periodic review recommendations.

41. Mauritius stated that the United Kingdom's denial of the right of Mauritians, particularly those of Chagossian origin, to resettle in the Chagos Archipelago which forms part of the Mauritian territory constituted a human rights violation. Mauritius reiterated its non-recognition of the so-called "British Indian Ocean Territory".

42. Mexico expressed concern about the change in the position of the United Kingdom with respect to some of the recommendations made by Mexico.

43. Mongolia noted the commitment to improve the well-being of children in disadvantaged situations, increased social welfare for persons with disabilities, and measures to combat domestic violence. It welcomed the Hate Crime Action Plan.

44. Montenegro welcomed progress in combating domestic violence. It urged empowering women towards equal participation, and enhancing gender policies, particularly in respect of black women, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender women, and women with disabilities.

45. The delegation stated that the United Kingdom was clear about its sovereignty over the British Indian Ocean Territory and that no international tribunal had ever called its sovereignty into doubt. The Government strongly refuted Mauritius' claim that the Archipelago which the United Kingdom administers as the British Indian Ocean Territory is part of Mauritius and the United Kingdom expressed disappointment that Mauritius was requesting a referral by the General Assembly to the International Court of Justice, which the United Kingdom believes is an inappropriate use of the International Court of Justice advisory mechanism. The United Kingdom remained committed to good faith bilateral discussions and was disappointed that Mauritius was not giving serious consideration to the two proposals that the United Kingdom had put forward.

46. The delegation indicated that the Human Rights Act made most of the rights contained in the European Convention on Human Rights directly enforceable in United Kingdom courts. The Equality Act, which prohibited direct and indirect discrimination, had introduced a public sector equality duty.

47. Regarding concerns about the bill of rights proposals, the Government remained committed to reforming the human rights framework, and that would be considered once the arrangements for Brexit were known. The Government stated that it was willing to hear proposals for a Northern Ireland-specific bill of rights if sufficient consensus could be reached.

48. Regarding the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the United Kingdom considered that its current domestic framework already included prevention of arbitrary arrest and prohibition of torture and degrading treatment, and held the security and intelligence agencies to account, therefore the Government was unclear about the benefits of ratifying the Convention. It also considered that the rights of migrant workers were already protected in its domestic legislation and therefore the Government was unclear about the benefit of ratifying the Convention on Migrant Workers.

49. The delegation stated that because the United Kingdom had no indigenous or tribal people, as defined in the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), in its territory or in the Crown dependencies or Overseas Territories, the obligations of that Convention would not have a practical effect in the United Kingdom. It also explained that the benefits of the individual communications procedures remained unclear, as people in the United Kingdom had access to the application process to the European Court of Human Rights.

50. The delegation indicated that the United Kingdom was keeping under review all reservations on United Nations treaties. It also explained that the United Nations human rights treaties had not been incorporated into domestic law but that the treaties did not require States parties to do so. The United Kingdom had put in place a combination of policies and legislation to give effect to the United Nations treaties that it had ratified. The United Kingdom had signed the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (the Istanbul Convention) in 2012 and remained committed to ratifying it. It remained firmly committed to tackling violence against women and girls, including through new laws to ensure that perpetrators faced consequences for their actions and by increasing resources for victims.

51. Mozambique commended the implementation of recommendations from previous universal periodic review cycles which had led to the introduction of the Modern Slavery Act, and the launching of the Hate Crime Action Plan.

52. Myanmar commended efforts to improve the human rights of women and children. It urged amending the anti-abortion law in Northern Ireland, as complaints had increased.

53. Namibia commended the United Kingdom for having increased the fight against hatred, especially racism, by launching the new Hate Crime Action Plan in 2016.

54. Nepal noted measures to combat violence against women, discrimination, hate crime and modern-day slavery. It was encouraged by the commitment to official development assistance.

55. The Netherlands noted measures taken to tackle modern slavery. It encouraged safeguarding access to justice. Improved reporting mechanisms and a review of the measures taken would contribute to a better understanding of the scale and severity of hate crimes.

56. Nigeria was encouraged by the domestic human rights framework and acknowledged the launching of the Hate Crime Action Plan.

57. Pakistan noted with concern that racial discrimination, religious profiling and hate crimes against vulnerable groups were on the rise and encouraged the United Kingdom to tackle hate crime.

58. Panama underscored the efforts made by the United Kingdom to incorporate the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights into national legislation.

59. Paraguay welcomed human rights advances, in a time of changes and renewal for the United Kingdom.

60. Peru highlighted the introduction of a number of crimes, including criminal harassment, forced marriage, and omission to protect against female genital mutilation.

61. The Philippines expressed concern about the gender pay gap and about the reluctance to subscribe to multilateral obligations on migrants and refugees. It requested to be enlightened about the "safe return review" for refugees.

62. Portugal commended the measures introduced into the Modern Slavery Act 2015, following recommendations from the previous review.

63. The Republic of Korea underscored the State's leadership regarding human rights challenges such as modern forms of slavery, hate crime and sexual discrimination.

64. Romania appreciated the measures taken following the recommendations from the second cycle review.

65. The Russian Federation regretted that racial hate crimes were the most spreading ones, and expressed concern about the prosecution of dissent and the low level of prosecution of crimes connected with human trafficking.

66. Rwanda asked whether the Government had undertaken an assessment of potential risk factors for atrocity crimes, with a view to their prevention.

67. Serbia was concerned over the lack of safety for inmates and overcrowding in prisons, and asked whether the United Kingdom was considering raising the minimum age of criminal liability and about achieving a sustainable reduction in the number of children in detention.

68. Honduras shared the concerns with respect to the detention of asylum seekers and the lack of an explicit regulation for the right to family reunification for unaccompanied minors.

69. Singapore commended the United Kingdom for its holistic efforts to combat hate crime, and also for tackling poverty and delivering social justice through various measures.

70. Slovakia called for serious consideration of the rights of the child in the policymaking process. Children should be able to have recourse to the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

71. Slovenia commended the United Kingdom for adopting the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and appreciated the measures to address gender-based discrimination and violence. There was room for improvement in the juvenile justice system.

72. Spain welcomed the Modern Slavery Act 2015 although there were still challenges in its implementation, and expressed concern about increases in hate crimes and hate speech.

73. Sri Lanka underscored proactive measures in countering terrorism and asked the United Kingdom about the challenges in implementing those measures.

74. The State of Palestine commended measures to ensure that its antiterrorism measures complied with its human rights obligations, and welcomed the national action plan on business and human rights.

75. Sudan commended the launching of the new Hate Crime Action Plan, and was concerned about racial discrimination against people of African descent.

76. Sweden was concerned that the United Kingdom had not acted on recommendations concerning its policy regarding child protection, and additionally that the Abortion Act did not apply in Northern Ireland.

77. Switzerland stated that the Government was finding it difficult to provide the necessary means to the Historical Investigations Unit to allow it to carry out its mission.

78. The Syrian Arab Republic recalled the principle of the inadmissibility of acquisition of land by force and the right to self-determination as enshrined in both international human rights covenants and the United Nations Charter.

79. Thailand was concerned with hate-related crimes motivated by racial and xenophobic discrimination, and expressed concern about the proposal for repeal of the Human Rights Act 1998.

80. Timor-Leste commended the Hate Crime Action Plan 2016, and welcomed the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

81. Tunisia commended the United Kingdom's inter-State cooperation to strengthen human rights nationally and internationally. It welcomed progress in combating hate speech and modern slavery.

82. Turkey welcomed the introduction of the Modern Slavery Act and the launching of the Hate Crime Action Plan. It encouraged further improvement of the working conditions of migrants.

83. Uganda noted that domestic violence remained the most pervasive form of violence against women and stated that this required a more consistent and coherent human rights-based approach.

84. Ukraine welcomed the adoption of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and the establishment of a new task force to accelerate progress in tackling slavery.

85. The delegation indicated that it had introduced the Modern Slavery Act to tackle modern slavery, and the anti-slavery strategy of 2014. It was piloting the recommendation of the November 2014 review of the National Referral Mechanism, and highlighted a number of efforts against human trafficking, modern slavery and exploitation, including legal and institutional measures by the devolved administrations.

86. The delegation indicated that the arrangement on child asylum seekers was fully compatible with international standards, and the best interest of the child was a primary consideration in every decision taken about him or her. The strict limit of 24 hours' detention for an unaccompanied child liable for removal from the United Kingdom had been introduced in 2014.

87. The delegation emphasized that the United Kingdom ensured that sufficient support remained available to cover the needs of asylum seekers and their children. Fully furnished equipped accommodation with all utilities was provided to asylum seekers and their families who would otherwise be destitute, and all asylum seekers had access to health care and schooling for their children. The delegation pointed out that there was no statutory time limit on detention of asylum seekers in the United Kingdom but that it was not possible to detain them indefinitely, based on the presumption of liberty and the principle that detention was a last resort.

88. The delegation recognized that overseas domestic workers were a potentially vulnerable group, and stated that policies had been adjusted to have a better balance between enabling the workers to escape abuse and enabling them to report abuses so that abusers could be identified.

89. The delegation indicated that the United Kingdom had overseen a major programme of reform of stop and search, in order to ensure that it was fair, effective and transparent.

90. Regarding the minimum age of criminal responsibility, the Government believed that children aged 10 were able to differentiate between right and wrong, and they should be held accountable for their actions, although it noted that prosecution was not always appropriate for youth offending. In Scotland, the minimum age would be raised to 12, with safeguards.

91. Young offenders who were convicted of the most serious crimes could receive a sentence of detention for life, but that did not mean that they would automatically be in custody for life, as the person could be released on licence.

92. The Government continued to consider that its counter-terrorism legislation and measures complied with its international human rights obligations, and terrorism legislation was regularly reviewed by an independent reviewer.

93. The delegation stated that the United Kingdom was committed to improving safety and decreasing violence in prisons and referred to a number of measures taken.

94. On hate crime, the United Kingdom provided a strong legal framework to convict those who did incite hatred, but it also tried to protect freedom of speech. The Government had established two cross-party all-parliamentary groups, one focusing on anti-Semitism and one on anti-Muslim hatred, to help understand the issue better. The Government had recently launched its Hate Crime Action Plan 2016 — a comprehensive plan to which the Government was committed. Measures had also been taken in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

95. The United States of America expressed concern about unsafe and deteriorating prisons and continued reports of societal discrimination against minority groups.

96. Uruguay welcomed advances in combating domestic violence and encouraged the United Kingdom to strengthen efforts to eradicate it.

97. Noting the findings of several United Nations treaty bodies and non-governmental organizations, Uzbekistan made recommendations.

98. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela encouraged the establishment of a human rights national plan of action that included measures to implement United Nations mechanisms' recommendations.

99. Albania applauded the commitment by the United Kingdom to maintaining its strong global role in relation to human rights.

100. Algeria welcomed the strengthening of the legal framework on contemporary forms of slavery and racism.

101. Andorra encouraged the United Kingdom to pursue its efforts to promote and protect children's rights.

102. Angola welcomed the strategy to combat domestic violence and the modernization of the prison system.

103. Argentina welcomed the adoption of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

104. Lebanon appreciated the continued engagement of the United Kingdom abroad and cooperation with the United Nations to enhance human rights despite the decision taken on Brexit in June 2016.

105. Australia commended the leadership on human trafficking and modern slavery, and acknowledged the investigations of deaths in Northern Ireland, prevention of violence against women and girls and creation of domestic violence protection orders.

106. Bahrain commended the launching of the action plan to combat hate crime and the measures taken to combat human trafficking, noting difficulties of victims in accessing medical services and legal assistance.

107. Bangladesh reminded the State of its moral responsibility resulting from the colonial past to ensure that its immigration policies remained transparent, humane and accessible, and was concerned about escalating racial profiling, xenophobia and hate crimes.

108. Belarus regretted that the Government had not given ample attention to some of the recommendations from the previous cycles.

109. Bosnia and Herzegovina recognized the commitment of the United Kingdom to the universal periodic review, its efforts to promote equality and the new Hate Crime Action Plan.

110. Botswana noted concerns by special procedures on the measures taken by the United Kingdom to fight extremism and terrorism and on the draft investigatory powers bill.

111. Brazil believed that despite the challenge imposed by the current migration and refugee crisis, a human rights approach was needed when addressing the issue.

112. Bulgaria commended the efforts in combating violence against women and girls, and noted the roll-out of domestic violence protection orders and the introduction of female genital mutilation protection orders.

113. Canada emphasized the importance of maintaining existing standards and legal protections for human rights, with the United Kingdom preparing to exit the European Union.

114. Chile was concerned about the impact that the exit by the United Kingdom from the European Union would have on its human rights legislative framework.

115. China welcomed human rights progress and noted with concern serious problems of racism and xenophobia against ethnic minorities, while the rights of refugees and migrants had not been guaranteed.

116. Côte d'Ivoire encouraged the Government to strengthen the measures taken to fight all forms of discrimination, and violence against vulnerable groups, and to support and protect victims.

117. Croatia welcomed the steps taken by the United Kingdom regarding the implementation of recommendations from the second universal periodic review.

118. Czechia acknowledged the determination of the United Kingdom to prevent and eradicate modern slavery at both the domestic and international levels.

119. Ecuador was concerned at the frequent cases of hate crimes, the restrictions on granting refugee status and the possible repeal of the Human Rights Act 1998.

120. Egypt was concerned about United Kingdom policies making it a sanctuary for extremists and fertile ground for terrorism, hate crimes and discrimination, and was concerned about policies against migrants.

121. Estonia urged the involvement of all relevant stakeholders when replacing the Human Rights Act 1998 with a British bill, and called for the application of international human rights principles to all under its jurisdiction to be ensured.

122. Finland encouraged the Government to continue working to prevent the growth of intolerance and xenophobia in society and to report on the implementation of the relevant action plan.

123. France welcomed the efforts of the United Kingdom to continuously improve the internal human rights situation.

124. Gabon welcomed the law against violence against women and girls and the establishment of the crimes of forced marriage and non-protection against female genital mutilation.

125. Morocco appreciated the efforts to fight discrimination, in consultation with civil society, the strengthening of laws on racial equality, and measures to combat hate speech and hate crime.

126. Regarding equality and social rights, the delegation stated that the Government of the United Kingdom remained committed to achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women. From March 2017, the Government had extended the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to additional British Overseas Territories. The gender pay gap was at its lowest level ever and the measures taken included gender pay gap reporting.

127. Tackling child poverty was a priority for the Government, and it recognized that the root causes were not just financial and that it was necessary to go beyond the safety net provided by welfare. The delegation referred to the Child Poverty Strategy in Northern Ireland, the Fairer Scotland Action Plan and the 2010 Children and Families (Wales) Measure, which would help to tackle child poverty.

128. The delegation referred to announced resources for a package of measures to protect children and young people from sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking, and to crack down on offenders. Measures taken in the devolved administrations were also mentioned.

129. The delegation noted that the United Kingdom had strengthened the powers and level of independence of the Children's Commissioner, making it more accountable to the United Kingdom Parliament and children.

130. Regarding Roma, Gypsies and Travellers, the delegation referred to the existence of established frameworks against racial and other forms of discrimination and hate crime, and pointed to increased resources for housing.

131. On business and human rights, concrete measures had been taken, including through the Modern Slavery Act 2015, the Companies Act 2006 and guidance to specific sectors. The Government had also funded business and human rights projects in other countries. It continued to encourage wide adoption of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

132. The United Kingdom had always been a proud and proactive member of the United Nations. The delegation stated that the country was a confident, strong and dependable partner internationally, committed to maintaining its strong global role in relation to human rights and to complying with its international human rights obligations, which included its active participation in and advocacy of the universal periodic review.

133. The United Kingdom had engaged in the universal periodic review session in a spirit of openness and had listened with interest to the viewpoints and perspectives that had been expressed. It was clear that some of the following themes were of real importance to the Human Rights Council: ensuring the ongoing protection of equality and human rights as the United Kingdom left the European Union; a desire for the Government to focus on strengthening its approach to international treaties; a keen interest in the impact of changes to welfare benefits, particularly in relation to vulnerable people, and also access to justice changes, including legal aid and employment tribunal fees; a desire to see continued monitoring of those changes and also for Government to look at the cumulative impact of such reforms; the continued importance of tackling modern slavery and human trafficking, improving safety in prisons, and issues around immigration detention; and the importance of counter-terrorism measures being human rights-compliant.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

134. **The following recommendations will be examined by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirty-sixth session of the Human Rights Council:**

134.1 **Further consider its position on accepting the right of individual petition to the United Nations beyond the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Mozambique);**

134.2 **Accede to the human rights conventions and protocols to which is not yet party in order to facilitate the harmonization of the national human rights legislation across its territories (Paraguay);**

134.3 **Consider ratifying those international human rights instruments that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has not yet ratified (Uganda);**

134.4 **Step up the process of reviewing the reservations made to the international human rights treaties (Belarus);**

134.5 **Lift the reservation on article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Libya);**

134.6 **Ratify the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) (Philippines);**

134.7 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Portugal);**

134.8 **Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Albania) (Chile);**

134.9 **Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Albania);**

134.10 **Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Chile);**

134.11 **Ratify the First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Panama) (Estonia);**

134.12 **Take necessary steps to allow individual complaints mechanisms under United Nations human rights treaties such as the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Czechia);**

134.13 **Ratify promptly the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, on a communications procedure (Guatemala);**

134.14 **Consider ratification of the First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Romania);**

134.15 **Withdraw reservations from the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Pakistan);**

134.16 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Spain);**

134.17 **Ratify the third optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure as it reinforces and complements national and regional mechanisms (Slovakia);**

134.18 **Consider the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Georgia);**

134.19 **In order to further strengthen the fulfilment of children's rights, ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Liechtenstein);**

134.20 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Montenegro);**

134.21 **Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Right of the Child on a communications procedure (Croatia);**

134.22 **Withdraw its interpretative declaration to article 1 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and unconditionally forbid children from taking part in hostilities (Czechia);**

134.23 **Ratify promptly the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Guatemala);**

134.24 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Kyrgyzstan) (Philippines) (Algeria) (Egypt);**

134.25 **Consider ratifying those international human rights instruments it had not yet ratified, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Nigeria);**

134.26 **Accede to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Sri Lanka);**

134.27 **Accede to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and stop the practice of arresting immigrants for unspecified periods (Syrian Arab Republic);**

134.28 **Sign and ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Turkey);**

134.29 **Continue considering adhering to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families, as previously recommended (Uruguay);**

134.30 **Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Bangladesh);**

134.31 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Germany) (Panama) (France);**

134.32 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Tunisia);**

134.33 **Sign and accede to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Sierra Leone);**

134.34 **Accede to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Iraq);**

134.35 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance as an expression of its commitment to addressing this issue (Japan);**

134.36 **Consider ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Sudan);**

134.37 **Continue considering adhering to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and recognizing the competence of its supervisory body, as previously recommended (Uruguay);**

134.38 **Continue its work on accession to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Bosnia and Herzegovina);**

134.39 **Ratify promptly the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention,** 1989 **(No. 169) of the International Labour Organization (Guatemala);**

134.40 **Ratify the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) (Panama);**

134.41 **Consider ratifying the ILO Domestic Workers Convention,** 2011 **(No. 189) (Uruguay);**

134.42 **Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (the Lanzarote Convention) (Slovenia);**

134.43 **Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (the Istanbul Convention) (Italy);**

134.44 **Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Montenegro);**

134.45 **Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Spain);**

134.46 **Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) (Turkey);**

134.47 **Pursue its efforts towards ratification to become a State party to the Istanbul Convention in the near future (Bosnia and Herzegovina);**

134.48 **Make the necessary legal, policy and practice-related changes to enable the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) and dedicate sufficient resources to central, devolved and local authorities to ensure its effective implementation (Finland);**

134.49 **Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Andorra);**

134.50 **Ratify the Convention of the Council of Europe on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Bulgaria);**

134.51 **Consider accepting the Kampala Amendments to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court on the crime of aggression (Andorra);**

134.52 **Ratify the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity (Armenia);**

134.53 **Implement the 1954 Convention on statelessness to ensure that stateless persons in Britain access British nationality (Kenya);**

134.54 **Pursue cooperation with the international human rights mechanisms (Côte d'Ivoire);**

134.55 **Take into consideration the opinion of civil society and its role in supporting the decision-making process, particularly with regard to the implementation of recommendations presented to them during the universal periodic review session, additionally, listen to the British human rights organizations and support their role, in particular, in the light of the interest of the Government in the situation of organizations in other States (Egypt);**

134.56 **Guarantee the applicability of the principles and doctrines of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in its national legislation of the United Kingdom regions (Iraq);**

134.57 **Align its norms to the human rights based approach in light of the new challenges faced (Peru);**

134.58 **Further incorporate the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination into domestic law (Greece);**

134.59 **Establish effective coordination and monitoring structures to ensure Convention on the Rights of the Child implementation across national and local governments (Kazakhstan);**

134.60 **Integrate fully the principles and provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child into its domestic law (Slovakia);**

134.61 **Incorporate the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination into the domestic law to ensure direct and full application of the principles and provisions of the Convention (Uganda);**

134.62 **Ensure that all laws and policies adopted are in conformity with international human rights law and standards, including on the fight against terrorism (Botswana);**

134.63 **Continue to be engaged in open and inclusive public debates on ensuring the most effective domestic implementation of international and regional human rights standards, with full account of universally guaranteed rights and freedoms (Serbia);**

134.64 **Ensure that the principles and provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination are directly and fully applicable under domestic law in all territories of the United Kingdom (Kyrgyzstan);**

134.65 **Speed up the adjustment of national legislation to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, both at State and autonomous regions levels (Chile);**

134.66 **Ensure the inclusion of all stakeholders in the drafting and adoption of the British Bill of Rights, in particular representatives of the poor, minorities and vulnerable groups (Haiti);**

134.67 **Provide reassurance that any proposed British Bill of Rights would complement rather than replace the incorporation of the European Convention on Human Rights in Northern Ireland law and acknowledging this is a primary matter for the Northern Ireland Executive and Assembly — that a Bill of Rights for Northern Ireland to reflect the particular circumstances of Northern Ireland should be pursued to provide continuity, clarity and consensus on the legal framework for human rights there (Ireland);**

134.68 **Ensure that the legislative changes, if adopted, keep the same level of human rights protection as provided by the Human Rights Act, as advised by the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations treaty bodies (Kazakhstan);**

134.69 **Maintain the legal effects, scope and effectiveness of the Human Rights Act in the adoption of new legislation (Kenya);**

134.70 Ensure that any legislative modification, such as the enactment of the Bill of Rights, maintains the level of protection that the current Human Rights Act guarantees (Mexico);

134.71 Ensure that the proposed new Bill of Rights to replace the Human Rights Act, if adopted, does not remove or weaken any human rights protection granted under the current Act (Namibia);

134.72 Take all necessary steps to prevent the new British Bill of Rights from leading to a decreased level of human rights protection (Portugal);

134.73 Ensure that any possible reform of the 1998 Human Rights Act has no impact on the scope of protection or the access to the remedies under the European Convention on Human Rights (Switzerland);

134.74 Continue its commitment to international human rights obligations and standards and ensure that the new bill of rights is drafted through broad-based consultations and embraces no less protection of human rights (Thailand);

134.75 Make sure that, in case the proposals for a British Bill of Rights are realized, the current level of human rights protection provided by the Human Rights Act of 1998 is maintained and improved (Ukraine);

134.76 Carry out extensive consultations with civil society related to the repeal of the 1998 Human Rights Act. In view of the process of leaving the European Union, ensure that any new legislation aims at strengthening human rights in the entire jurisdictions of the country (Uzbekistan);

134.77 Ensure that changes in the national legislation affecting the Human Rights Act do not result in weakening human rights protection mechanisms in the country (Belarus);

134.78 In the context of the withdrawal from the European Union, ensure that human rights achievements are preserved in the future framework of human rights protection in the United Kingdom and the future status of European citizens residing in the United Kingdom (France);

134.79 Adopt a national action plan on human rights (Sudan);

134.80 Intensify its efforts to provide oversight over British companies operating abroad with regard to any negative impact of their activities on the enjoyment of human rights, particularly in conflict areas, which includes situations of foreign occupation, where there are heightened risks of human rights abuses (State of Palestine);

134.81 Further reinforce measures to combat all forms of discrimination and inequality (Georgia);

134.82 Exert all its efforts, in law and practice, to combat racism, xenophobia and Islamophobia, and to eliminate all forms of discrimination against migrants, and to avoid subjecting asylum seekers and stateless persons to prolonged and/or repeat unlawful detention (Islamic Republic of Iran);

134.83 Ensure equality and non-discrimination in the current legislation through due compliance with measures to fight against prejudices, xenophobia and violence against women and girls (Paraguay);

134.84 Dedicate more resources to fight against negative stereotypes in the media, against the most affected minority groups (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, Gypsies, Muslims, refugees and persons granted asylum) (Spain);

134.85 Tackle advocacy of religious hatred including that which constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence in political discourse and in the media (Malaysia);

134.86 Stop the pressure on mass media, including by closing their bank accounts (Russian Federation);

134.87 Review and strengthen current policies and initiatives to combat societal discrimination against members of racial, religious and ethnic minority groups (United States of America);

134.88 Take further measures to combat racism and xenophobia and incorporate the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination into domestic laws (China);

134.89 Elaborate a general strategy, in consultation with members of the Gypsy, Traveller and Roma communities, to ensure a systematic and coherent approach to address the problems that such communities continue to face, including discrimination and stigmatization (Guatemala);

134.90 Ensure that the Government of the United Kingdom takes all necessary steps to prevent all kinds of discrimination directed at minorities in the community namely the Roma community (Indonesia);

134.91 That the State and devolved governments collaborate in the approval of an integration strategy for Gypsies, Travellers and Roma people in all the United Kingdom (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

134.92 Strengthen and activate existing laws and legislation in the field of combating discrimination and all forms of racism and make further efforts to combat discrimination against Gypsies, nomads and Roma (Lebanon);

134.93 Develop a plan of action to implement the activities of the Decade of People of African Descent, which would, inter alia, address concerns of racial profiling of people of African Descent (Sierra Leone);

134.94 Develop a comprehensive strategy to address inequalities experienced by ethnic minorities (Sierra Leone);

134.95 Take effective measures to address inequalities experienced by ethnic minority groups and combat discrimination (Kazakhstan);

134.96 Adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination measures, to promote equal political, social and economic rights of women of ethnic minorities (Republic of Korea);

134.97 Take effective measures to prevent manifestations of intolerance on the grounds of nationality and race (Russian Federation);

134.98 Take the necessary measures to deepen awareness with regard to minorities and foreigners in order to prevent them from suffering acts of violence and discrimination (Argentina);

134.99 Adopt measures to condemn racist rhetoric and hate speech, and apply specific measures on the integration and inclusion of migrants aimed at the population at large (Guatemala);

134.100 Ensure efficient implementation of the new "Hate Crime Action Plan" in order to reduce racially and religiously aggravated crimes (Israel);

134.101 Continue to implement measures such as promoting cultural understanding toward the eradication of hate crime against social minorities (Japan);

134.102 Take additional serious measures to eliminate race enmity on the ground, which leads to hate crimes (Kyrgyzstan);

134.103 Take appropriate measures against the sharp increase in all hate-related violent crimes especially involving young people (Maldives);

134.104 Improve the systems of identification of potential targets and vulnerable communities, enhance surveillance and implement protection measures to address hate crimes (Maldives);

134.105 Continue to strengthen data collection to better understand the scale and severity of hate crimes, in order to assess the impact of the Hate Crime Action Plan (Netherlands);

134.106 Prosecute perpetrators of hate crimes against vulnerable groups (Pakistan);

134.107 Take steps to curb incitement of hatred by some British tabloid newspapers, in line with the country's obligations under national and international law (Republic of Korea);

134.108 Continue to closely monitor the hate crime and discrimination cases, following the implementation by the United Kingdom Government of the newly launched Hate Crime Action Plan of 2016 (Romania);

134.109 Take measures to curb incitements of hatred in the British mass media, in line with international standards (Russian Federation);

134.110 Continue to refine its policies to counter hate crimes in communities, particularly those motivated by race and religion, and to share its best practices with other Member States (Singapore);

134.111 That the United Kingdom Government, parliamentarians, human rights institutions and civil society organizations continue to work closely together in order to ensure that vulnerable groups such as ethnic and religious minorities, refugees and migrants are better protected against hate speech and hate-related crime and that they are provided with greater certainty and legal protection (Thailand);

134.112 Continue efforts towards combating racism and hate speech against foreigners through disseminating a culture of dialogue and cooperation among religions and civilizations (Tunisia);

134.113 Prepare a report on the impact of the "Hate Crime Action Plan" with the view to assess concrete results (Turkey);

134.114 Take further steps to halt and reverse the increase in the number of violent hate crimes (United States of America);

134.115 Adopt effective measures to combat crimes based on religious hate and facilitate access to justice to minority groups (Angola);

134.116 Redoubling efforts and measures to combat hate crimes and xenophobia (Lebanon);

134.117 Continue working to improve the services given to the victims of discrimination and hatred, especially religious hatred, and continue in raising awareness about this crime (Bahrain);

134.118 Address racial discrimination, xenophobia and hate crimes by further strengthening effective legislative and judicial measures (Bangladesh);

134.119 Conduct a full review of the effectiveness of the 2016 Hate Crime Action Plan, and review approaches by criminal justice agencies under the current legal framework in order to address reports of increasing hate crime in the United Kingdom (Canada);

134.120 Continue strengthening measures to combat prejudices and punish crimes motivated by xenophobia (Chile);

134.121 Effectively guarantee the rights of refugees and migrants and make substantive progress in the fight against hate crime (China);

134.122 **Adopt measures aimed at combating racism and hate crimes, in addition to strengthening and ensuring access to fair and effective mechanisms for reparation for the victims of such violence (Ecuador);**

134.123 **Take effective and quick measures to combat hate speech, Islamophobia, racial aggressive acts that are on the increase in the society, and commit to addressing the long-term consequences (Egypt);**

134.124 **End discrimination against same-sex couples in Northern Ireland by bringing the relevant law into line with other parts of the United Kingdom (Iceland);**

134.125 **Review its Equality Act in relation to gender identity and the rights of intersex persons in the context of rights to health services (Australia);**

134.126 **Adopt a rights-based approach to its forthcoming Emissions Reduction Plan (Maldives);**

134.127 **Enact legislation to ensure accountability on human rights violations and environmental damages resulting from global operations of United Kingdom companies (Philippines);**

134.128 **Review counter-terrorism measures which target individuals or groups based on race, ethnic background or religion, including Muslims or Muslim communities (Malaysia);**

134.129 **Establish an evaluation mechanism of the antiterrorist strategy that takes into account the observations made by special procedures and treaty bodies, and that evaluates its human rights implications (Mexico);**

134.130 **In the context of the fight against terrorism, that the use of force be in line with the United Nations Charter and international human rights law and with due respect for the necessity and proportionality criteria (Peru);**

134.131 **Ensure that the planned counter-extremism bill is in compliance with international law and does not single out certain organizations on the stereotypical assumption, based on general characteristics such as religion and the predominant race of the membership of the organization (State of Palestine);**

134.132 **In the context of the defence of the right to life, carefully assess the transfer of arms to those countries where they are likely to be used for human rights abuses and violations (Peru);**

134.133 **Consider including in its next universal periodic review report information on measures it has taken to analyse potential risk factors of atrocity crimes including through utilizing the United Nations Framework of Analysis for Atrocity Crimes (Rwanda);**

134.134 **Train public officials in human rights, in particular the police and the military, including on the excessive use of force (Ecuador);**

134.135 **Expedite investigation and take action on allegations of complicity of British military personnel in the ill-treatment of civilians and detainees overseas (Kenya);**

134.136 **Enact a complete prohibition of all forms of torture into the 1988 Criminal Justice Act, including removals of so-called "escape clauses" (Republic of Korea);**

134.137 **Adherence to international standards for respect for detainees' rights and the conditions of detention (Egypt);**

134.138 **Adopt a comprehensive national framework to prevent trafficking in women and girls, and allow victims of trafficking to access a fair trial (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

134.139 **Adopt a victim-centred comprehensive national framework against trafficking in persons, especially women and girls (Philippines);**

134.140 **Investigate thoroughly incidents of trafficking in human beings and ensure that the perpetrators are subject to proportionate punishment (Russian Federation);**

134.141 **Reinforce the National Referral Mechanism to identify and assist victims of human trafficking (Spain);**

134.142 **Adopt a comprehensive national framework to combat trafficking in women and girls (Timor-Leste);**

134.143 **Strengthen the national framework to combat human trafficking and ensure adequate support and protection to victims of trafficking (Uganda);**

134.144 **Strengthen national mechanisms to combat human trafficking, specifically of women and girls, and to support and rehabilitate its victims (Lebanon);**

134.145 **Monitor the implementation of the 2015 modern slavery legislation, including its effectiveness in combating trafficking in women and girls (Australia);**

134.146 **Continue strengthening the positive measures taken to combat the crime of trafficking in persons and particularly those measures concerning the protection of child victims (Bahrain);**

134.147 **Continue efforts to fight human trafficking and all forms of slavery (Morocco);**

134.148 **Strengthen the protection of citizens and the right to privacy in the Investigatory Powers Bill of 2016 (Haiti);**

134.149 **Bring all legislation concerning communication surveillance in line with international human rights standards and especially recommends that all communications surveillance requires a test of necessity and proportionality (Liechtenstein);**

134.150 **Ensure that the regulation on surveillance does not violate the right to privacy, intimacy and freedom of expression of its citizens (Paraguay);**

134.151 **Consider the revision of the Investigatory Powers Act 2016 with a view to protecting the right to privacy, including by prohibiting mass surveillance activities and the collection of communications data without warrants (Brazil);**

134.152 **Provide protection to the family as a natural and fundamental unit to the society (Egypt);**

134.153 **Consider aligning its corporate criminal liability regime with international human rights law in order to ensure accountability and effective remedy for victims of serious human rights abuses involving the operations of United Kingdom companies abroad (Namibia);**

134.154 **Ensure the accessibility of appropriate legal aid to safeguard access to justice for all, particularly for the most marginalized groups in society (Netherlands);**

134.155 **Continue to intensify efforts and take necessary measures with a view to carrying out the repatriation of illicit funds and proceeds of corruption to their countries of origin and to ensure cooperation with requesting States (Nigeria);**

134.156 **Increase the necessary resources to the service of the Coroner to allow him to carry out impartial, swift and effective investigations on all the deaths linked to the conflict in Northern Ireland (Switzerland);**

134.157 **Continue negotiations on transitional justice issues and implement transitional justice elements of the Stormont House Agreement (Australia);**

134.158 **Take concrete measures to reduce the current and future prison population, as well as to improve prisoner safety (Serbia);**

134.159 **Initiate a prison reform plan to improve the deteriorating conditions in United Kingdom prisons, including addressing the increase in homicides and assaults (United States of America);**

134.160 **Review current prison safety and conditions and consider developing an action plan to address increases in self-harm and suicide as well as overcrowding in prisons in the United Kingdom (Canada);**

134.161 **Revoke the blanket ban on prisoners' exercise of their right to vote, in order to comply with the rulings of international courts on this matter (Czechia);**

134.162 **Continue its efforts to improve treatment of inmates (Japan);**

134.163 **Ensure the welfare of all segments of society in an inclusive manner, including those of migrants (Nepal);**

134.164 **Provide more targeted social policies to help disadvantaged families, and in particular their children, so as to boost social mobility (Singapore);**

134.165 **Simplify, harmonize and reinforce the current legal norms on equality in favour of those most vulnerable (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

134.166 **Strengthen measures to foster access of vulnerable populations to public services and social and health services (Côte d'Ivoire);**

134.167 **As a follow-up to the recommendations contained in A/HRC/21/9, paras. 110.39 and 110.103, consider along with stakeholders the possibility of a universal basic income to replace the existing social protection system (recommendations 110.39 and 110.103 of the second cycle) (Haiti);**

134.168 **Develop clear national strategies for the eradication of the poverty of about four million children, as indicated in the United Kingdom universal periodic review summary report of the stakeholders' submissions (Syrian Arab Republic);**

134.169 **Further strengthen its 'Equality Act', in particular, to provide better health services to groups in vulnerable situations including migrants (Sri Lanka);**

134.170 **Ensure that the law governing access to abortion in Northern Ireland fully complies with international human rights law, by decriminalizing abortion and ensuring access to abortion in cases of severe and fatal fetal anomalies and where the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest (Iceland);**

134.171 **Take necessary measures to provide reproductive health-care services for women and girls in line with its Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women obligations (Myanmar);**

134.172 **Ensure that the law governing access to abortion in Northern Ireland fully complies with international human rights law, by decriminalizing abortion and ensuring access to abortion in cases of severe and fatal fetal anomalies and where the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest (Sweden);**

134.173 **Encourage the devolved government of Northern Ireland to align its legal framework on sexual and reproductive health and rights, and its reproductive health services, with the rest of the United Kingdom (Canada);**

134.174 **Step up efforts to promote racial equality and social inclusion in the education system in Northern Ireland (Botswana);**

134.175 With regard to the reporting mechanism on the gender pay gap, consider efficient means of following up on the reports made by the employers (Israel);

134.176 Address the problem of discrimination against women, particularly in the labour market, with regard to the gender-based wage gap (Libya);

134.177 Address more effectively entrenched discriminatory practices against women in the political, economic and social spheres, particularly in terms of the gender pay gap and social security (Malaysia);

134.178 Pay priority attention to gender equality and discrimination against women, as well as on the grounds of race and ethnicity, and ensure the application of the principles and provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination in the domestic legislation of the country (Uzbekistan);

134.179 Take necessary measures to eliminate discriminatory practices in the labour market with respect to women (Algeria);

134.180 Exert more efforts to combat or to counter violence against women and girls (Libya);

134.181 Adopt national legislation, especially in Northern Ireland, on domestic violence protection, that ensures all cases of domestic violence are thoroughly investigated and that perpetrators are prosecuted (Maldives);

134.182 Ensure a holistic approach to the prevention of violence against women and girls, including harmful practices (Slovenia);

134.183 Combat violence against women and girls, in particular domestic violence (Sudan);

134.184 Continue efforts to combat discrimination on any ground and violence against women and girls (Bosnia and Herzegovina);

134.185 Continue its positive efforts to reduce domestic violence throughout the country (Indonesia);

134.186 Effectively fight violence against women and take substantive measures to combat sexual exploitation and sexual crimes against children (China);

134.187 Step up its efforts in fighting domestic violence and take measures to prevent secondary victimization and the negative impact of domestic violence on children (Czechia);

134.188 Strengthen its legislative framework by including penal sanctions for perpetrators of acts of forced marriage and non-protection against female genital mutilation (Gabon);

134.189 Place children's rights at the centre of climate change adaption and mitigation strategies by mainstreaming child-sensitive risk and vulnerability reduction strategies into its National Adaptation Programme (Maldives);

134.190 Reviewing the laws on immigration in Britain in order to comply with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Syrian Arab Republic);

134.191 Increase efforts to eliminate child poverty and bring domestic legislation in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Hungary);

134.192 Increase government efforts to eradicate child poverty, and in this regard undertake an assessment of the impact of the welfare reform on children from disadvantaged families (Kazakhstan);

134.193 In all devolved administrations, overseas territories and Crown dependencies, prohibit all corporal punishment in the family, including

through the repeal of all legal defences, such as "reasonable chastisement" (Liechtenstein);

134.194 **Ensure that corporal punishment is explicitly prohibited in all schools and educational institutions and all other institutions and forms of alternative care (Liechtenstein);**

134.195 **Prohibit corporal punishment in all settings, including the family (Ireland);**

134.196 **Reconsider its position on the legality of corporal punishment of children (Mongolia);**

134.197 **Ban corporal punishment of children to ensure the full protection and freedom from violence for all children (Sweden);**

134.198 **Consider prohibiting corporal punishment against children and ensure that it is explicitly prohibited in all schools and educational institutions, and all other institutions and forms of alternative care (Croatia);**

134.199 **Take further actions in protecting the rights of the child by prohibiting all corporal punishment of children as required by the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Estonia);**

134.200 **Develop and implement comprehensive multisectoral strategies on child exploitation and abuse (Timor-Leste);**

134.201 **Complete the investigation on numerous cases of sexual violence against children perpetrated by the high-level officials and bring the perpetrators to justice (Russian Federation);**

134.202 **Take more measures to fight against sexual exploitation of children and violence against them (Algeria);**

134.203 **Abolish the life sentence for minors, in conformity with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Paraguay);**

134.204 **Consider abolishing the mandatory imposition of life imprisonment for offences committed by children under the age of 18 (Greece);**

134.205 **Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility in accordance with acceptable international standards and abolish the mandatory imposition of life imprisonment for offences committed by children under the age of 18 (Albania);**

134.206 **Consider revising the minimum age of criminal responsibility (Peru);**

134.207 **In line with the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, consider the possibility of increasing the age of criminal responsibility in line with accepted international standards (Belarus);**

134.208 **Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility in accordance with acceptable international standards (Bulgaria);**

134.209 **Implement measures in support of enhanced participation of people with disabilities in the workforce (Israel);**

134.210 **Enable indigenous peoples in the territories they occupy to exercise their right to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations (Syrian Arab Republic);**

134.211 **Respect the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations (Syrian Arab Republic);**

134.212 **Stop the forced evictions of indigenous peoples in the territories under occupation (Syrian Arab Republic);**

134.213 **Review the 2016 Immigration Act in order to ensure its compatibility with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Honduras);**

134.214 **Develop social integration policies, especially for migrants and refugees (Lebanon);**

134.215 **Take steps to revise the legislation on immigration by introducing time limits for the detention of migrants and asylum seekers, as well as considering revising the changes introduced to visas for foreign spouses based on income criteria (Brazil);**

134.216 **Continue and strengthen the promotion of the rights of migrants residing in the United Kingdom (Morocco);**

134.217 **Introduce a general statutory time limit on immigration detention and ensure such detention is not used in the case of vulnerable individuals or groups (Germany);**

134.218 **Incorporate a prohibition to indefinite detention of migrants in the 2016 Declaration on Immigration and search for alternatives to detention (Mexico);**

134.219 **Like other European countries, set a statutory time limit for immigration detention and ensure that children are not subjected to such detention (Bangladesh);**

134.220 **Revise its regulation and administrative practices in order to protect the human rights of female domestic migrant workers, in particular when their work permits are linked to the employer and they have been victims of human trafficking and work exploitation (Honduras);**

134.221 **Improve on the United Kingdom's Immigration Act 2016 dealing with refugees to be compatible with United Nations Human Rights Conventions, particularly the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Indonesia);**

134.222 **Reform its directive on family reunification to establish specifically family reunification for child asylum seekers relocated to the United Kingdom or who have been recognized as refugees (Honduras);**

134.223 **Take the necessary measures to guarantee the exercise of the right to family reunification of unaccompanied children recognized as refugees or resettled (Argentina);**

134.224 **Implement the recommendations of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and the Human Rights Committee regarding the detention of asylum seekers, including political asylum, and guarantee the full enjoyment of their right to freedom of movement and full and immediate access to independent medical personnel and legal representation (Ecuador);**

134.225 **Categorize statelessness as a protection status and provide stateless persons expedited and affordable access to British nationality (Hungary);**

134.226 **Urge the United Kingdom to take appropriate measures, including completion of the decolonization process of Mauritius and respect the legitimate right of resettlement of the Chagossians, aimed at bringing the United Kingdom into full compliance with its human rights obligations (Mauritius);**

134.227 **Apologize to the peoples and the countries it colonized or it attacked and provide financial compensation to the peoples of these countries (Syrian Arab Republic).**

135. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was headed by H.E. The Rt Hon Sir Oliver Heald QC, Minister of State, Ministry of Justice, and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Julian Braithwaite, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom, Geneva;
- Matthew Forman, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom, Geneva;
- Bob Last, Deputy Head Policy and Human Rights, Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom, Geneva;
- Rob Linham OBE, Assistant Director, Human Rights and Intergovernmental Relations, Ministry of Justice;
- Emma Hindley, Private Secretary to Sir Oliver Heald, Ministry of Justice;
- Alison Stradling, Head of United Nations Treaties Team, Human Rights and Intergovernmental Relations, Ministry of Justice;
- Sergio Moreno, Senior Policy Adviser, United Nations Treaties Team, Human Rights and Intergovernmental Relations, Ministry of Justice;
- Naomi Sephton, Legal Adviser, Government Legal Department;
- Peter Neill, Policy Advisor, Equality and Human Rights Unit, The Executive Office, Northern Ireland Executive;
- Duncan Isles, Head of Human Rights, Scottish Government;
- Paul Dear, Head of Equality, Welsh Government.

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Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

India

* The annex is being issued without formal editing, in the language of submission only.

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-seventh session from 1 to 12 May 2017. The review of India was held at the 8th meeting, on 4 May 2017. The delegation of India was headed by the Attorney General, Mukul Rohatgi. At its 14th meeting, held on 9 May 2017, the Working Group adopted the report on India.

2. On 13 February 2017, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of India: Latvia, the Philippines and South Africa.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of India:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/27/IND/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/27/IND/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/27/IND/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Czechia, Germany, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to India through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation of India stated that India remained convinced of the effectiveness of the universal periodic review process, and reiterated its commitment to meaningful engagement with international organizations and other States in a spirit of reciprocity, with a common desire for a better world. India continued with its endeavours towards observance of human rights. When drafting its national report, India had followed a broad-based consultative approach involving various stakeholders.

6. For India, poverty eradication and achieving inclusive sustainable development were utmost priorities. In that regard, major initiatives had been undertaken, including Smart Cities, Make in India, Celebrate the Girl Child and Enable her Education, Bank Accounts for All, and Startup India, which mirrored the targets of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals for achieving the 2030 Agenda.

7. An important plank of the country's development agenda, as well as of its push towards good governance and the creation of a knowledge society, had reportedly been the Digital India programme, which aimed at transforming India into a digitally empowered society.

8. The coverage of the Aadhaar Unique Identification Number had been widened to prevent leakages and to ensure targeted delivery of scheme benefits. To further institutionalize the project, the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 had been enacted. Over a billion Aadhaar cards had reportedly been issued to date.

9. India had taken various steps to eliminate all forms of malnutrition, including child malnutrition, notably through the adoption of the National Food Security Act, 2013 and the

expansion of the coverage of the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme for better nutrition, health and overall development for children under the age of 6.

10. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme was the flagship employment programme in India. It was an entitlement-based scheme covering the entire country; women had been the beneficiaries of nearly 60 per cent of the total work days created under the Scheme. Young people were the main beneficiaries of the Skill India Initiative.

11. India had prioritized inclusive and quality education for all by supporting various programmes and policies to universalize educational opportunities, with special emphasis on the girl child.

12. India had been making efforts to evaluate the level of compliance with labour laws through a unified labour and employment web portal, through which employers were required to file returns giving details of their compliance with labour laws. In addition, a law had been enacted requiring employers to provide effective redress to women who had been victims of sexual harassment.

13. In all its policies, India had sought to ensure inclusive development and the protection of the rights of vulnerable groups. To that end, the National Policy for Children 2013 had put in place a rights-based policy framework to address children's needs.

14. India was deeply committed to reinforcing and accelerating efforts to combat human trafficking. In that context, the Government was in advanced consultations with stakeholders on an anti-human trafficking bill to comprehensively address issues relating to human trafficking.

15. In April 2014, the Supreme Court had handed down a landmark judgment directing the Government to declare transgender persons as pertaining to a "third gender" and to include them in the category of an "Other Backward Class", which would entitle them to affirmative action benefits. The Court had also reinforced the point that they should have all rights under the law.

16. India had made significant progress in addressing the special needs of persons with disabilities through the Accessible India Campaign, and by overhauling the legislative framework on the rights of persons with disabilities and the rights of persons with mental health issues.

17. India had also amended its laws to provide more stringent punishment for atrocities against persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes. In addition, a range of policy measures had been adopted to address issues of social exclusion, deprivation and disadvantage that such groups might face.

18. India had remained alert to the problem of global warming and the need to factor in environmental sustainability in its development policies. For instance, the Government had articulated its belief in taking an ethical and people-centred approach to climate change by espousing the principles of climate justice.

19. The delegation also referred to the country's constitutional framework for the protection of civil liberties and its commitment to safeguarding fundamental rights and fulfilling the Directive Principles of State Policy enshrined in the Constitution.

20. The independent judiciary, the autonomous human rights commissions at both the national and State levels, the media and civil society all ensured that the authorities remained respectful of constitutional and human rights norms.

21. The Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act had been applied only to disturbed areas to deal with exigent circumstances like terrorism. The Supreme Court had upheld the constitutionality of the Act and laid down strict guidelines, including that the armed forces could not use excessive force under the Act.

22. India was committed to ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. In that context, the Government had requested the Law Commission of India to prepare a comprehensive report covering all aspects of criminal law so that the necessary amendments could be made in the Penal Code,

the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Evidence Act, prior to carrying out the ratification process.

23. Concerning extrajudicial executions, the Supreme Court issued extensive guidelines for effective and independent investigations, and the judiciary monitored investigations in specific cases.

24. In order to address the large backlog of cases that often resulted in delays in their closure, the Law Commission's recommendations on institutional changes to facilitate timely justice were being considered by the Government and the Supreme Court.

25. Safeguarding the rights of minorities formed an essential core of the polity of India, and the State made no distinction between a citizen's caste, creed, colour or religion.

26. The delegation stressed that the right to free speech and expression were at the core of the Indian Constitution and that people were conscious of their political freedoms and exercised their choices at every opportunity.

B. Interactive dialogue

27. During the interactive dialogue, 103 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

28. Germany welcomed efforts to address poverty, including the issue of corruption, but was concerned about the social hardship endured by marginalized groups and about restrictions on civil society.

29. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela commended India for its efforts aiming to combat trafficking and poverty, promote the economic empowerment of women and provide social assistance to older persons, widows and persons with disabilities.

30. Greece welcomed efforts aiming at poverty eradication, creating an inclusive knowledge society and improving equal access to justice for all.

31. Guatemala was concerned about reports of discrimination against scheduled castes, women and religious minorities.

32. The Holy See made several recommendations.

33. Ghana urged India to finalize its ratification of the Convention against Torture and the Optional Protocol thereto.

34. Iceland commended India for the steps it had taken to combat violence against women, but regretted that violence persisted and women faced barriers to accessing justice.

35. Indonesia supported the efforts to provide continuous training for law enforcement officers and to raise their awareness of the need to respect human rights while performing their tasks.

36. The Islamic Republic of Iran welcomed the allocation of increased resources for the enjoyment of economic and social rights.

37. Iraq commended the increase in health expenditure and the health insurance plans for families living under the poverty line.

38. Spain welcomed the debate on the need to combat child labour and child marriage.

39. Israel commended India for enacting the 2005 Right to Information Act, launching the Digital India programme and setting up anti-human trafficking units.

40. Italy commended efforts towards socioeconomic development and poverty eradication, and steps taken to favour access to justice and fight human trafficking.

41. Japan welcomed the commitment of India to reforming its legal system with a view to protecting and promoting the rights of women and girls.

42. Kazakhstan highlighted the policies India had adopted to address health, education, housing, poverty alleviation, food and social security.

43. Kenya commended India for its continued efforts to increase the protection and promotion of human rights.

44. Kyrgyzstan backed the efforts of India, inter alia, to empower women and eradicate discrimination against them.

45. The Lao People's Democratic Republic commended India for its socioeconomic policies to address people's needs.

46. Latvia encouraged India to continue its efforts to improve the protection of women against violence, particularly in rural areas, and to enhance women's political participation.

47. Lebanon commended the policies to promote freedom of expression and religion, strategies for poverty alleviation and the efforts to fight against human trafficking.

48. Libya commended the harmonization of development policies with the Sustainable Development Goals to make progress in the health and education sectors.

49. Liechtenstein made recommendations.

50. Lithuania commended India for reforming the Penal Code regarding the crimes of rape and sexual assault.

51. Madagascar welcomed progress regarding the promotion of food and health security and the willingness to intensify human rights training for security officials.

52. Malaysia viewed positively various development programmes to assist citizens to pursue upward socioeconomic mobility, such as the Stand-Up India scheme.

53. Maldives commended India for its continuous efforts to make education accessible to all children under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act.

54. Mauritius lauded India for its efforts and actions aiming at poverty alleviation, food security, access to safe water, education, health and housing rights.

55. Mexico acknowledged the progress India had made since the previous cycle, particularly its cooperation with special procedures and its efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

56. Montenegro noted positive steps regarding the use of capital punishment, such as the Supreme Court decision to commute 15 death sentences to life imprisonment.

57. Mozambique commended India for the strides made towards socioeconomic development and poverty eradication.

58. Myanmar applauded India for its legislative, institutional and policy initiatives to promote and protect human rights and achieve socioeconomic development.

59. Namibia applauded the efforts of India to implement the recommendations from its previous review and its standing invitation to the special procedure mandate holders.

60. Nepal commended the measures aimed at improving the welfare of the marginalized population and the socioeconomic policies addressing people's basic needs.

61. The Netherlands welcomed the steps taken to protect the rights of women and to enhance compensation to victims of communal violence.

62. Norway commended India for adopting the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Act and ratifying the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) and Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) of the International Labour Organization (ILO), as had been recommended during the previous review.

63. The delegation of India stated that many specific laws existed to address violence against women and to bring perpetrators to justice, such as the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013, and the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. The draft National Policy for Women aimed at further strengthening the entire architecture to address violence against women.

64. India did not discriminate against girls in terms of the right to education. Girls were actively encouraged to attend school and great emphasis was put on girls' enrolment. There had been encouraging results in terms of girls' retention in school, and the dropout rate for girls in middle school and beyond had fallen.

65. In addition to the anti-human trafficking bill, India had ratified several international human rights instruments pertaining to human trafficking.

66. The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act prohibited acceptance and utilization of foreign contributions or foreign hospitality for any activities detrimental to the national interest. Any violation of the Act was a cognizable offence.

67. In addition to the commitment of India to ratifying the Convention against Torture, there were sufficient provisions in the domestic legal framework that prohibited torture, and the Supreme Court had laid down specific rules and guidelines that the police must follow when making arrests.

68. India was a secular country and every citizen had the right to practice and promote his or her religion peacefully. The Ministry of Minority Affairs, the National Human Rights Commission and the National Commission for Minorities investigated cases related to discrimination, including religious discrimination.

69. The Government had introduced the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2016, which provided for, inter alia, non-discrimination against transgender persons and the formation of a national council for transgender persons.

70. Consensual sexual acts conducted in private by adults of the same sex, which were criminalized under section 377 of the Penal Code, had been decriminalized by a High Court judgment. The judgment had later been overturned by the Supreme Court. However, the Supreme Court had agreed to re-examine the issue.

71. The Government's guidelines on communal harmony established the preventive and administrative measures to be taken to maintain communal harmony and the standard operating procedures to deal with situations of communal violence.

72. Oman appreciated the measures to improve the situation of women and persons with disabilities and the National Initiative on Care for the Elderly.

73. Pakistan made recommendations.

74. Peru highlighted the adhesion of India to the principles of climate justice and the progress made against serious diseases.

75. The Philippines lauded the efforts to eradicate poverty and to prioritize renewable energy for cleaner air in cities.

76. Portugal noted the amendment to criminalize rape and gang rape, while regretting that marital rape fell outside the scope of the amendment.

77. Qatar appreciated the efforts to implement the previous review recommendations regarding sustainable development, which had had a positive impact on the enjoyment of human rights.

78. The Republic of Korea welcomed the "Save the Girl, Educate the Girl" campaign and efforts to eradicate poverty.

79. The Russian Federation welcomed, inter alia, the establishment of human rights training for law enforcement officers.

80. Rwanda encouraged India to enhance its efforts to combat racial discrimination and discriminatory practices against women.

81. Saudi Arabia commended the positive achievements made in the field of human rights and the efforts to implement accepted recommendations.

82. Senegal commended India for its government-wide approach to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals and its Housing for All programme.

83. Sierra Leone was concerned about incidents of sexual violence against women and urged India to intensify its efforts to address them.

84. Singapore commended India for its success in halving the number of rural households without a drinking water supply.

85. Slovakia recognized actions taken by India to completely ban the employment of children under the age of 14.

86. Slovenia expressed concern about the negative consequences of the relaxation of the standards for environmental impact assessments.

87. South Africa welcomed the provision of the smart card-based cashless health insurance cover to families in poverty and workers in the informal sector.

88. Ireland urged India to review the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act and pay special attention to human rights defenders working on minority and children's rights.

89. The State of Palestine commended India for its commitment to addressing climate change by pushing for strong domestic climate action for a more sustainable development pathway.

90. The Sudan appreciated the recent legislative and institutional developments, especially the enactment of the anti-corruption law in 2013.

91. Sweden wished India every success in promoting an inclusive society where everyone's rights were equally respected.

92. Switzerland expressed concern about the increasing restrictions imposed on independent civil society actors, including those belonging to religious minorities.

93. Thailand welcomed the enactment of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Act and the implementation of the National Child Labour Policy and the Accessible India Campaign.

94. Timor-Leste noted with appreciation the 2014 Supreme Court decision to commute to life imprisonment the death sentences of 15 individuals.

95. Turkey encouraged India to strengthen the mandate of the National Human Rights Commission to allow it to address a greater variety of human rights issues.

96. Uganda commended India for attaching utmost priority to poverty eradication and achieving inclusive sustainable development.

97. Ukraine encouraged India to reconsider pending requests from OHCHR and a number of special procedure mandate holders.

98. The United Arab Emirates appreciated the fact that the Indian courts had considered the right to a clean environment to be a human right.

99. The United Kingdom requested that India provide an update on the steps taken to address the remaining challenges concerning women's and girls' rights.

100. The United States of America noted the lack of transparency and uneven application of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, which impeded the work of non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

101. The delegation of India stated that the Government aimed to reserve one third of the seats in the lower house of Parliament and the state legislative assemblies for women. There were currently 1.4 million directly elected women representatives. Women's digital literacy and financial inclusion were at the top of the Government's agenda.

102. India was committed to ensuring better health and well-being for its entire population through its National Health Policy. Improvements in institutional deliveries had reached 79 per cent in 2015-2016, from 29 per cent in 1992-1993. The infant mortality rate had dropped from 57 per 1,000 live births in 2005-2006 to 41 per 1,000 live births in 2015-2016.

103. The Law Commission of India had not recommended the criminalization of marital rape in 2000. After a commission had handed down an opinion favouring that course of action, the Government had requested the Law Commission to deliberate upon the subject during its comprehensive review of the criminal justice system.

104. The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 had been amended with effect from January 2016, providing for the establishment of special courts for the speedy trial of cases.

105. The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 had been enacted in December 2016 and brought into force in April 2017. It contained special provisions on the rights of women with disabilities and on inclusive education for children with disabilities. The Accessible India Campaign had been launched in order to create a barrier-free environment for persons with disabilities.

106. The Government had launched the Swacha Bharat Mission in order to accelerate efforts to achieve universal sanitation coverage, improve cleanliness and eliminate open defecation by 2019. Similarly, the Government was implementing the National Rural Drinking Water Programme and the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation to ensure water supply to households in rural and urban areas.

107. Referring to the current security situation in Jammu and Kashmir and the high number of casualties sustained by Indian security forces, the delegation stressed the zero-tolerance policy on terrorism and the active, constructive role played by several stakeholders in that region.

108. The death penalty was exercised in the "rarest of rare" cases, when the crime committed was so heinous that it shocked the conscience of society. Furthermore, Indian law provided for all requisite procedural safeguards, for suspension of the death penalty for pregnant women, and for prohibition of executions of persons with mental or intellectual disabilities and juvenile offenders.

109. Uruguay welcomed the draft law for the protection, well-being and social security of domestic workers.

110. Uzbekistan appreciated the efforts of India to eradicate poverty and protect vulnerable groups in society.

111. Honduras noted the advances in poverty reduction, but was concerned about the high incidence of violence against children, especially girls.

112. Viet Nam commended India for its achievements in, inter alia, access for all to quality education, eradicating poverty and protecting vulnerable groups.

113. Yemen commended the efforts to realize development and eradicate poverty, which were reflected in sustainable development plans and the poverty alleviation strategies.

114. Zambia noted with satisfaction the efforts of India in, inter alia, poverty eradication and achieving inclusive sustainable development.

115. Zimbabwe noted the socioeconomic policies of India to address people's basic needs.

116. Algeria welcomed the launch of the Digital India programme, aiming, inter alia, at increasing connectivity and access to knowledge.

117. Angola raised concerns about increased cases of violence and sexual harassment against women, and of child labour.

118. Argentina welcomed the inauguration of the Stand-Up India scheme.

119. Australia was concerned that certain legislative instruments, including the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, might overly restrict the activities of civil society.

120. Bahrain appreciated the efforts made in the area of economic and social rights and noted challenges faced by women and children.

121. Bangladesh praised India for its socioeconomic development, including its measures for poverty eradication, improving nutrition, removing the urban-rural divide and addressing the sanitation and safe drinking water needs of its people.

122. Belarus welcomed the cooperation of India with international human rights mechanisms, including recent visits by Special Rapporteurs.

123. Belgium, while welcoming efforts to address violence and discrimination against women, stated that further progress could be achieved in that area.

124. Bhutan appreciated measures such as the Stand-Up India scheme, reforms to reduce delays in the judicial system and the steps taken to enhance the equality and empowerment of women.

125. The Plurinational State of Bolivia highlighted policies to improve living conditions in rural areas, especially with regard to water and sanitation.

126. Botswana noted that the socioeconomic development agenda of India was aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals and welcomed the focus on poverty eradication.

127. Brazil welcomed the commitment of India to poverty eradication and its initiatives in the field of health.

128. Brunei Darussalam noted that the Constitution of India guaranteed an individual's right to a clean environment.

129. Bulgaria noted the importance of the National Human Rights Commission and called for the extension of its mandate.

130. The delegation of India stated that the Government had mapped out all the central ministries, national missions and centrally supported development programmes regarding each specific Sustainable Development Goal, and national consultations on all the goals had been held, with broad participation of various stakeholders.

131. In order to address the agrarian crisis, India planned to develop a sense of income security by aiming for optimal utilization of water resources, conservation of soil fertility with balanced use of fertilizers and provision of connectivity between farms and markets.

132. The Government was committed to ensuring a safe working environment for all, including those engaged in promoting and protecting human rights, while stressing that human rights defenders' activities should comply with the domestic legal framework.

133. The right to housing remained a priority for the Government. It had launched the Housing for All by 2022 programme to provide better and affordable housing facilities to the rural poor, urban slum dwellers and other economically weaker sections of the society, including minorities.

134. The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 had vested the forest rights and occupation of forest land to Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers.

135. India was committed to eradicating child labour. It had addressed the phenomenon through a multipronged strategy, which included the enactment of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016, prohibiting the employment of children below 14 years of age in any occupation, except after school work and when assisting in family enterprises.

136. Several legislative and policy measures had been taken to promote social, economic and emotional security for the elderly. In 2017, the Government had launched the Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana, a scheme for providing physical aids and assisted-living devices for senior citizens.

137. Burkina Faso requested further information on the establishment of the crisis centres providing victims of sexual violence with legal aid.

138. Canada welcomed efforts to strengthen justice for victims of sexual assault, and commended the Supreme Court of India for its recognition of transgender persons.

139. Chad welcomed the inclusive consultation process in the preparation of the national report and the cooperation of India with United Nations treaty bodies.

140. Chile wished to know whether specific measures existed to address violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation or sexual identity.

141. China noted the measures taken to fight corruption and reduce the backlog in court cases, and international cooperation to prevent human trafficking.

142. Colombia highlighted the Stand-Up India and Housing for All programmes and human rights training for law enforcement officials.

143. Côte d'Ivoire encouraged India to continue its actions regarding, inter alia, freedom of expression, gender equality and socioeconomic development.

144. Cuba welcomed the new legislation in the fields of persons with disabilities and child labour and the new policy on primary education.

145. Czechia encouraged a positive response to the report of the Law Commission of India recommending the abolition of the death penalty.

146. Denmark welcomed the acceptance of the recommendations from the previous review to ratify the Convention against Torture.

147. Egypt appreciated the culture of transparency, openness and accountability in the governmental functioning, as enacted in the Right to Information Act.

148. Estonia welcomed the efforts of India to improve access to financial services and pensions for economically marginalized persons.

149. Ethiopia noted progress in implementing the review recommendations relating to environmental policies.

150. Finland commended the adoption of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act in 2016.

151. France encouraged India to respect international standards during law enforcement operations, and the freedoms of expression and peaceful assembly.

152. Gabon welcomed efforts to eliminate violence and discrimination against women and to combat violence against, and exploitation of, children.

153. Sri Lanka requested India to elaborate on best practices and practical measures taken to encourage citizens to exercise their right to information.

154. Haiti noted the great focus on reducing poverty, especially extreme poverty, and increasing access to quality education.

155. The delegation of India stated that, in order to address child sexual abuse, a law had been enacted providing for child-friendly mechanisms for reporting a crime, recording of evidence, investigation, speedy trial of offences and in-camera trials through designated special courts.

156. Under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, giving a child into marriage was considered as cruelty and any child in that situation would be treated as a child in need of care and protection. District child protection units registered cases involving forced child marriage that had resulted in pregnancy.

157. The potential of reproductive and sexual health education was recognized by India and the Government had invested in partnerships to create and strengthen opportunities for young people.

158. The Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act had been used only in exceptional circumstances, and several checks and balances had been introduced to ensure that there were strict guidelines for the armed forces and for monitoring alleged human rights violations by such forces.

159. Regarding recent incidents relating to members of the African community, the delegation stated that the Minister of External Affairs personally monitored the situation

and had requested the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi to have the case investigated on a fast-track basis.

160. The delegation of India concluded by reiterating its commitment to leave no one behind and to ensure that all the policies and schemes in place reached the bottom of the pyramid.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

161. **The following recommendations will be examined by India, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirty-sixth session of the Human Rights Council:**

161.1 **Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Estonia);**

161.2 **Consider adhering to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, and abolish the death penalty (Portugal);**

161.3 **Ratify the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Guatemala);**

161.4 **Consider withdrawing the remaining declarations and reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Rwanda);**

161.5 **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, as previously recommended (Botswana);**

161.6 **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment urgently and in accordance with its commitments from the 2012 universal periodic review (Norway);**

161.7 **Ratify, before the next universal periodic review cycle, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Czechia);**

161.8 **Finalize the efforts to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, as well as other international instruments, as recommended by relevant treaty bodies (Bulgaria);**

161.9 **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Greece) (Guatemala) (Italy) (Lebanon) (Montenegro) (Mozambique) (South Africa) (Sweden) (Turkey) (Ukraine) (United States of America);**

161.10 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Portugal);**

161.11 **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and ensure that the instrument of ratification is consistent with the Convention (Australia);**

161.12 **Swiftly ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol, ensure that domestic legislation defines torture in line with international**

standards, and extend an invitation to the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment for an official visit to the country (Germany);

161.13 **Proceed with early ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, as well as the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Japan);**

161.14 **Ratify the Convention against Torture as soon as possible and further, ratify the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) of the International Labour Organization and the Optional Protocols to Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and abolish the death penalty as recommended by the Law Commission of India (Ireland);**

161.15 **Finalize the process of ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Kazakhstan);**

161.16 **Redouble its efforts to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Republic of Korea);**

161.17 **Speed up the process for the ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Israel);**

161.18 **Advance towards the ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Chile);**

161.19 **Consider completing the process of ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Burkina Faso);**

161.20 **Complete the process of preparation for the ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Russian Federation);**

161.21 **Intensify efforts to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Denmark);**

161.22 **Strengthen national efforts towards the ratification of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Indonesia);**

161.23 **Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol and swiftly move ahead with the Prevention of Torture Bill (Estonia);**

161.24 **Enact the Prevention of Torture Bill currently pending in the parliament in compliance with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Turkey);**

161.25 **Adopt the draft law on the prevention of torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment by complying with established international norms (Madagascar);**

161.26 **Adopt the draft law on the prevention of torture and ensure that it complies with the provisions of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Senegal);**

161.27 **Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Uruguay);**

161.28 **Promptly ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Guatemala);**

161.29 **Expedite efforts to ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Sierra Leone);**

161.30 **Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Greece) (Ukraine);**

161.31 **Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Burkina Faso);**

161.32 **Accede to and implement the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and article 7 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child to end statelessness and guarantee nationality for affected children (Kenya);**

161.33 **Accede to and fully implement the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (Slovakia);**

161.34 **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Estonia);**

161.35 **Accede to and fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Latvia);**

161.36 **Consider ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Uruguay);**

161.37 **Develop a national strategy to tackle exploitative labour practices and to ratify the ILO Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930, and continue to strengthen protections for children (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

161.38 **Ratify the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) of the International Labour Organization (Slovenia);**

161.39 **Consider ratifying the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) (Uruguay);**

161.40 **Consider acceding to the ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) (Uruguay);**

161.41 **Ratify the international conventions to which it has committed itself (Madagascar);**

161.42 **Ratify other human rights conventions to which India is not yet a State party (Philippines);**

161.43 **Ratify the international human rights instruments to which India is not a State party yet (Côte d'Ivoire);**

161.44 **Adopt an open, merit-based selection process when selecting national candidates for United Nations treaty body elections (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

161.45 **Respond positively to visit requests by the special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Latvia);**

161.46 **Put in place a specific mechanism for implementing previous accepted recommendations (Uganda);**

161.47 **Request all necessary technical assistance enabling the Government to meet its international commitments (Côte d'Ivoire);**

161.48 **Accede to and adapt its national legislation to the Rome Statute, including incorporation of dispositions to swiftly and fully cooperate with the International Criminal Court (Guatemala);**

161.49 **Bring into law the Prevention of Communal and Targeted Violence bill (2013) (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

161.50 **Accede to and adapt its national legislation to the Arms Trade Treaty (Guatemala);**

161.51 **Criminalize marital rape (Portugal) (Sweden);**

161.52 **Include a provision in its Penal Code criminalizing marital rape (Australia);**

161.53 **Remove the exception relating to marital rape from the definition of rape in the Indian Penal Code and criminalize "honour crimes" (Slovenia);**

161.54 **Remove the exception relating to marital rape from the definition of rape in section 375 of the Indian Penal Code (Belgium) (Iceland);**

161.55 **Consider removing the exception relating to marital rape from the definition of rape in section 375 of the Indian Penal Code (Namibia);**

161.56 **Remove the exception of marital rape from the definition of rape in article 375 of the Penal Code, in line with the efforts already undertaken for the protection of women (France);**

161.57 **Criminalize all forms of sexual abuse of girls under 18 years of age, including marital rape and "honour crimes" (Zambia);**

161.58 **Take additional steps in criminalizing marital rape (Lithuania);**

161.59 **Consider introducing laws to specifically prevent and prosecute "honour" killings and prosecute those that order or sanction violence against women (Namibia);**

161.60 **Continue efforts to eradicate child and forced marriage (Peru);**

161.61 **Continues its endeavours in promoting and protecting the human rights of all its citizens in an inclusive manner (Nepal);**

161.62 **Adopt a national plan on human rights (Kenya);**

161.63 **Expand the scope of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act and promote human rights education in the school curriculum (Slovakia);**

161.64 **Include human rights education in the draft new education policy (Zambia);**

161.65 **Continue and step up national efforts to train and guide security staff and other law enforcement officials in the field of human rights (Egypt);**

161.66 **In the spirit of its Constitution, which guarantees equal rights to all minorities, further invest in dedicated human rights training of police officials to register and investigate cases of discrimination and violence and to hold them accountable when they fail to do so (Finland);**

161.67 **Provide systematic training on women's rights to all law enforcement personnel, medical staff and judicial officials (Belgium);**

161.68 **Strengthen capacity-building with regard to human rights for civil servants involved in the protection of women and girl and boy victims of violence and sexual abuse (Mexico);**

161.69 **Adopt a comprehensive national plan on inclusion in order to combat persisting inequality, paying particular attention to persons in vulnerable situations such as women, children, persons with disabilities and minorities (Honduras);**

161.70 **Strengthen the national framework to reduce all kinds of discrimination (Iraq);**

161.71 **Intensify efforts to guarantee equality and non-discrimination in line with its international obligations by developing public human rights awareness programmes and taking concrete steps to advance the rights of women and girls, members of religious minorities, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and to combat caste-based discrimination, including to: criminalize marital rape; decriminalize consensual same-sex relations; and establish appropriate policies and practices for registering, investigating and prosecuting violence against women, girls and members of religious minorities (Ireland);**

161.72 **Ensure that laws are fully and consistently enforced to provide adequate protections for members of religious minorities, scheduled castes, tribes and other vulnerable populations (United States of America);**

161.73 **Take effective measures to combat rising instances of religious intolerance, violence and discrimination (Kazakhstan);**

161.74 **Enact the Prevention of Torture Bill (South Africa);**

161.75 **Adopt laws and implement policies to supress all forms of de facto discrimination against any person or group (Guatemala);**

161.76 **Repeal section 377 of the Indian Penal Code and ensure that consensual same-sex relations are not criminalized (Iceland);**

161.77 **Take steps to end the criminalization of same-sex relations (Israel);**

161.78 **Amend or revoke section 377 to decriminalize same-sex relations (Norway);**

161.79 **Repeal section 377 of the Indian Penal Code, which criminalizes same-sex conduct between consenting adults, and enact legislation consistent with the Supreme Court's recognition of the rights of transgender persons (Canada);**

161.80 **Adopt measures to effectively protect transgender persons, including the implementation of the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill (Israel);**

161.81 **Continue the fight against discrimination, exclusion, dehumanization, stigmatization and violence suffered by scheduled castes (Peru);**

161.82 **Take urgent measures to repeal the norms that discriminate against castes, and investigate and sanction the perpetrators of acts of discrimination and violence against them, in particular against the Dalits (Argentina);**

161.83 **Take the necessary measures to ensure effective implementation of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Act, notably through the training of State officials (France);**

161.84 **Establish a national action plan for combating hate crimes, racism and negative stereotypes against people of African descent inside its territory, including appropriate programmes of public awareness that will address the**

problem of racism and Afro-phobia, in full consultation with those particularly affected (Haiti);

161.85 Consolidate the progress made towards reaching the Sustainable Development Goals and in the improvement of human development indicators (Islamic Republic of Iran);

161.86 Continue efforts in the implementation of sustainable development strategies for the year 2030 (Sudan);

161.87 Allocate adequate resources to realize the Sustainable Development Goal targets to reduce maternal mortality and end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 (Norway);

161.88 Continue facilitating equal access to justice for all and provide legal aid, in particular to vulnerable groups, minority groups and marginalized people (Angola);

161.89 Further promote equal access to justice for all, especially by providing more legal aid to the poor and marginalized (Ethiopia);

161.90 Establish and implement regulations to ensure that the business sector complies with international and national human rights, labour, environment and other standards (Uganda);

161.91 Continue its efforts in relation to its environmental policies (State of Palestine);

161.92 Provide access to clean and modern energy to all its people and develop climate-friendly green cities (United Arab Emirates);

161.93 Continue implementing its international commitments to achieve its nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement of 2015 (United Arab Emirates);

161.94 Continue its efforts to effectively enforce its environmental policies and further increase the growth of forest cover in the country (Brunei Darussalam);

161.95 Take appropriate measures to avoid the excessive use of force by security officers (Greece);

161.96 Deepen the respect about principles of proportionality and necessity for armed forces and police (Peru);

161.97 Revise the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act to bring it into compliance with the obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, with a view to fighting impunity (Switzerland);

161.98 Review the Code of Criminal Procedure as regards the use of force by law enforcement officials, in particular section 46 (Sierra Leone);

161.99 Prevent and pursue through the appropriate judicial means all violent acts against religious and tribal minorities, Dalits and lower castes (Holy See);

161.100 Strengthen efforts for the prevention of cases of intercommunal violence (Russian Federation);

161.101 Step up its efforts against caste-based violence, discrimination and prejudice, including by eradicating all forms of caste-based discrimination in the educational system (Czechia);

161.102 Prohibit forced sterilization in line with requests by the Special Rapporteurs on torture, violence against women, and the right to health, and in line with the National Population Policy (Iceland);

161.103 Take concrete steps to prevent coercive, unsafe and abusive sterilization and create greater accountability for these practices, including

ensuring free and full consent prior to conducting the procedure and compliance with international standards (Sweden);

161.104 Abolish the death penalty (Mozambique);

161.105 Consider the abolition of the death penalty (Greece);

161.106 Consider imposing a moratorium on the application of the death penalty with a view to abolishing it (Namibia);

161.107 Consider imposing a de facto moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to its total abolition (Rwanda);

161.108 Establish a moratorium on executions as a first step towards the abolition of the death penalty (Belgium);

161.109 Introduce an official moratorium on the death penalty (Lithuania);

161.110 Establish a de jure moratorium on capital executions and commute the existing death sentences with a view to fully abolishing the death penalty (Italy);

161.111 Consider establishing a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its abolishment (Spain);

161.112 Establish a formal moratorium on the death penalty, with a view to ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Australia);

161.113 Consider the establishment of a moratorium on executions during the process of consideration by the Government of the recommendations of the Law Commission of India on the issue of the abolition of the death penalty (Montenegro);

161.114 Consider establishing a moratorium on the death penalty (Timor-Leste);

161.115 Introduce a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty (France);

161.116 Improve prison conditions in order to assure the rights and dignity of all those deprived of their liberty (Zambia);

161.117 Continue with relevant consultations and adopt a law on combating trafficking in persons (Belarus);

161.118 Continue the consultation process with all concerned parties to elaborate a new draft of the law against trafficking in persons (Cuba);

161.119 Continue and redouble its efforts to combat trafficking in persons and modern slavery, including through better law enforcement to end impunity for human traffickers and through initiatives aimed at destigmatizing and rehabilitating victims of trafficking (Liechtenstein);

161.120 Continue to implement measures to stop the flow of trafficking in persons (Holy See);

161.121 Strengthen the national mechanisms to combat human trafficking and support victims and their rehabilitation (Lebanon);

161.122 Accelerate efforts towards combating human trafficking, particularly by protecting and rehabilitating victims (Philippines);

161.123 Continue combating human trafficking (Senegal);

161.124 Continue efforts to improve social services that provide support to victims of human trafficking, forced labour and those who have been sexually exploited (Maldives);

161.125 **Continue improving the national legislative framework on the rehabilitation of victims of trafficking (Ukraine);**

161.126 **Strengthen efforts to guarantee freedom of religion and belief, especially by retracting so-called anti-conversion laws (Holy See);**

161.127 **Take all necessary measures to protect the rights of persons belonging to religious minorities, and repeal laws which restrict religious conversion (Netherlands);**

161.128 **Abolish anti-conversion laws and grant access to justice to victims of religious violence and discrimination (Italy);**

161.129 **Repeal the requisite legislation to stop violence and discrimination against religious minorities (Kenya);**

161.130 **Take visible policy and other measures to ensure the freedom of religion and belief and address the alarming trend of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance including mob violence committed, incited and advocated by right-wing parties and affiliated extremist organizations against minorities, particularly Muslims, Christians, Sikhs and Dalits (Pakistan);**

161.131 **Ensure that any measure limiting freedom of expression, assembly and association on the Internet is based on clearly defined criteria in accordance with international law including international human rights law (Sweden);**

161.132 **Continue to develop laws and make efforts to ensure freedom of religion and belief (Lebanon);**

161.133 **Guarantee freedom of religion or belief by implementing existing laws to better protect individuals belonging to minority groups from hate speech, incitement to religious violence, discrimination on religious grounds and forcible conversions (Canada);**

161.134 **Enact a law for the protection of human rights defenders (Lithuania);**

161.135 **Amend the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act to ensure the right to freedom of association, which includes the ability of civil society organizations to access foreign funding, and protect human rights defenders effectively against harassment and intimidation (Germany);**

161.136 **Revise the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act to ensure benign working conditions for civil society in India (Norway);**

161.137 **Improve the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act so that it could fund a broader scope of non-governmental organizations (Republic of Korea);**

161.138 **Ensure consistent, transparent application of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act regulations to permit full exercise of the right to freedom of association (United States of America);**

161.139 **Review and amend the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, which may restrict the access of NGOs to foreign financial assistance and lead to their arbitrary shut-down (Czechia);**

161.140 **Lift legal restrictions or hurdles to the work of civil society individuals or organizations and ensure that they can undertake their legitimate activities without fear of reprisals (Switzerland);**

161.141 **Carry out independent investigations in all cases of attacks against journalists (Lithuania);**

161.142 **Put an end to all curbs on freedom of expression and association (Pakistan);**

161.143 **Guarantee freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly for all individuals and promote meaningful dialogue that embraces and allows freely organized advocacy of diverging views by civil society (Canada);**

161.144 **Continue its efforts to protect religious freedom and the rights of minority groups based on its Constitution and other relevant laws (Republic of Korea);**

161.145 **Bring all legislation concerning communication surveillance in line with international human rights standards and especially recommend that all communication surveillance requires a test of necessity and proportionality (Liechtenstein);**

161.146 **Take the necessary steps to ensure that all operations of intelligence agencies are monitored by an independent oversight mechanism (Liechtenstein);**

161.147 **Continue efforts to reduce corruption and increase accountability (Sudan);**

161.148 **Strengthen the independent functioning of the judiciary in order to reduce delays in judicial proceedings, enhance transparency of the processes and guarantee the right to speedy trial (Estonia);**

161.149 **Allocate appropriate resources to reducing backlog and delays in the administration of cases in courts (Ethiopia);**

161.150 **Promote and facilitate universal access to birth registration, especially for people living in extreme poverty, belonging to religious minorities or living in remote areas of the country, through the implementation of mobile units and carrying out awareness-raising campaigns (Mexico);**

161.151 **Ensure children's rights to acquire a nationality in accordance with article 7 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, regardless of the parents' legal status or ethnicity (Slovakia);**

161.152 **Remove barriers prohibiting scheduled castes and schedule tribes from registering their children's births and obtaining birth certificates (Bahrain);**

161.153 **Continue strengthening efforts aimed at promoting food security and eradicate all forms of malnutrition, in particular among children under the age of 5 (Libya);**

161.154 **Continue its programmes for the promotion of socioeconomic development, with a particular focus on the country's rights-based approach to food security targeting the most vulnerable groups (Sri Lanka);**

161.155 **Implement a human rights-based, holistic approach to ensure access to adequate housing as well as to adequate water and sanitation, including for marginalized groups, Dalits, scheduled castes, the homeless, the landless, scheduled tribes, religious and ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities and women (Germany);**

161.156 **Expand the Housing for All scheme to realize the right to adequate housing for vulnerable people and eliminate homelessness by 2030 (South Africa);**

161.157 **Continue the Housing for All policy led by the Government to eradicate by 2030 the problem of homelessness, in conformity with Sustainable Development Goal 11 of the 2030 Agenda (Algeria);**

161.158 **Ensure the systematic functioning of all mechanisms for the delivery of financial and other forms of assistance to those in need which have been established within the framework of the National Social Assistance Programme (Russian Federation);**

161.159 **Ensure that the implementation of a set of socioeconomic policies, such as the Stand-Up India scheme, is targeted, accountable and transparent, so that their benefits reach all sections of society (Singapore);**

161.160 **Continue efforts and measures aimed at enhancing social security and labour policies, and expand the development model in rural areas (Egypt);**

161.161 **Continue studying the possibility of a universal basic income as a way to further reduce poverty levels with a view to possibly phasing out the existing social protection system, in full consultation with all stakeholders (Haiti);**

161.162 **Continuously improve its endeavours to eradicate poverty in the country (Indonesia);**

161.163 **Continue its efforts towards socioeconomic development and poverty eradication (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

161.164 **Further strengthen its efforts towards socioeconomic development and poverty eradication (Myanmar);**

161.165 **Continue efforts to realize social and economic development and eradicate poverty (Saudi Arabia);**

161.166 **Continue efforts to reduce poverty, improve the well-being of the people, protect and enforce the rights of vulnerable groups of the population (Uzbekistan);**

161.167 **Continue its efforts to achieve sustainable development and eradicate poverty (Yemen);**

161.168 **Continue its fight against poverty, lack of adequate food, safe water and sanitation, while paying special attention to the need to introduce a child rights-based approach in all policies (Bulgaria);**

161.169 **Continue national efforts to realize social and economic development and eradicate poverty, and achieve comprehensive sustainable development for all (Egypt);**

161.170 **Continue to increase access to safe and sustainable drinking water in rural areas and to improve sanitation coverage, especially for women and girls (Singapore);**

161.171 **Carry on its efforts and action in the promotion of social security and labour policy (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

161.172 **Implement further actions in promoting social and work security, as well as efforts to spread the country's growth model in rural areas (Uzbekistan);**

161.173 **Continue promoting sustainable economic and social development and raising the living standard of its people so as to lay down a firm basis for the enjoyment of human rights by its people (China);**

161.174 **Accelerate the process of consolidating existing labour laws to, inter alia, promote the right to equal opportunities for work and at work, as well as to achieve occupational safety (Zimbabwe);**

161.175 **Increase public spending on the health sector in accordance with the 2017 National Health Policy and take further steps to strengthen health facilities (Kazakhstan);**

161.176 **Continue to provide access to health services for the elderly under the National Programme for Health Care of the Elderly (Colombia);**

161.177 **Take steps towards improving access to health, especially access to maternal health and to adequate obstetric delivery services so as to reduce maternal and child mortality (Zimbabwe);**

161.178 **Continue its efforts to ensure that the universal health-care scheme covers disadvantaged groups, including persons with disabilities and persons living in remote rural areas, who still face obstacles in accessing basic health-care services (Lao People's Democratic Republic);**

161.179 **Continue furthering the sexual and reproductive health and rights of all women by immediately putting an end to camp-based sterilization operations in accordance with the Supreme Court order of 14 September 2016, by ensuring all women access to counselling on and access to the full range of modern contraceptives in a voluntary, safe and quality manner, and by providing comprehensive sexuality education (Finland);**

161.180 **Redouble its efforts in maternal health, sexual and reproductive health and comprehensive contraceptive services (Colombia);**

161.181 **Increase the government expenditure in the field of education (Iraq);**

161.182 **Continue its efforts to ensure that all children have access to education at all levels and all categories (Lao People's Democratic Republic);**

161.183 **Continue to take steps to provide inclusive and quality education for all (Myanmar);**

161.184 **Continue its efforts in implementing its comprehensive policies to ensure quality education for all children (Qatar);**

161.185 **Promote children's right to education, especially education on climate change adaptation and mitigation (Viet Nam);**

161.186 **Step up its efforts to carry out the second phase of its Education for All programmes to focus on providing affordable and quality secondary education in the country (Brunei Darussalam);**

161.187 **Increase investment in universal, mandatory and free education by giving priority to measures to eradicate discrimination and exclusion that affect girls, children with disabilities, Dalits and marginalized persons (Mexico);**

161.188 **Accept more efforts to increase girls' secondary education, including ensuring that schools are girl-friendly in all parameters (Kyrgyzstan);**

161.189 **Continue to ensure access to education for all, especially children of scheduled castes and tribes (Holy See);**

161.190 **Strengthen the integration of the gender perspective in the formulation and implementation of policies (Colombia);**

161.191 **Ensure implementation of the Gender Budgeting Scheme in all states and union territories (South Africa);**

161.192 **Continue incorporating the gender perspective in the design and implementation of policies, and guarantee that the development agenda pays equal attention to the concerns of women (Cuba);**

161.193 **Redouble efforts on ensuring gender equality and take measures to prevent gender discrimination (Timor-Leste);**

161.194 **Continue its efforts to ensure women's equal participation in the workforce and generate employment opportunities for women in rural areas (State of Palestine);**

161.195 **Take urgent measures to put an end to harmful traditional practices such as so-called "honour killings", selective abortion on the basis of the sex of the fetus, sati, devadasi, early and enforced marriage, bringing the perpetrators to justice and guaranteeing assistance for victims (Argentina);**

161.196 **Implement existing laws on all forms of violence and sexual violence against women and girls, including "honour" crimes, female feticide and female infanticide; expand the definition of rape and sexual assault to include marital rape; and end harmful practices such as child, early and forced marriage (Canada);**

161.197 **Improve the enforcement of the legal provisions prohibiting harmful and discriminatory practices against women and girls, in particular child marriages, dowry-related murders and honour killings, and ensure that all women, without discrimination, have access to public services (Czechia);**

161.198 **Step up efforts for comprehensive protection of women and girls, in particular against sexual violence (Greece);**

161.199 **Combat violence against women through effective legislation and law enforcement measures (China);**

161.200 **Take more effective measures to protect and promote the rights of women and girls, as they continue to be subjected to widespread violence, discrimination and exploitation (Japan);**

161.201 **Take additional serious measures to eliminate violence against women and children, including sexual violence (Kyrgyzstan);**

161.202 **Continue and strengthen measures to prevent and repress offences and violence against women and girls, including through early childhood education, awareness-raising and enhancing effective mechanisms of reparation (Viet Nam);**

161.203 **Eliminate traditional harmful practices, such as the rising number of deaths due to dowry and burning of widows (Bahrain);**

161.204 **Continue its efforts to promote the empowerment of women and to combat violence against women, in line with the recommendations of the Verma Committee (Brazil);**

161.205 **Continue strengthening institutions to eliminate discrimination and violence against women, in particular sexual violence, and adopt specific measures to achieve gender equality in the labour market (Chile);**

161.206 **Increase the resources so that female survivors of violence and domestic abuse can denounce the crimes with guarantees they will be not repeated (Spain);**

161.207 **Punish domestic violence, as well as promote awareness-raising campaigns on gender violence, including "honour" crimes (Spain);**

161.208 **Reinforce the legal framework for the prevention of violence against women, including running a national awareness campaign and ensuring comprehensive investigation and prosecution in cases of domestic violence (Italy);**

161.209 **Adopt a comprehensive law to combat all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence and marital rape (Honduras);**

161.210 **Strengthen the protection of women's rights in accordance with the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act and other relevant laws (Republic of Korea);**

161.211 **Ensure effective implementation of the law on the protection of women against domestic violence (Gabon);**

161.212 **Further the implementation of relevant laws and policies as well as training for public officials, to tackle sexual offences and unfair treatment to women (Thailand);**

161.213 **Redouble its efforts to enforce its legal provisions prohibiting harmful and discriminatory practices that violate the rights of women and girls (Liechtenstein);**

161.214 **Strengthen legislation to combat sexual offences against children and women (Timor-Leste);**

161.215 **Enhance activities aimed at eliminating discrimination against women, which particularly affects women from lower castes (Kyrgyzstan);**

161.216 **Implement the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act to increase the protection of children from sexual abuse (Kenya);**

161.217 **Ensure that legislation defining the minimum legal age of marriage at 18 is enforced at all levels, everywhere in the country (Iceland);**

161.218 **Step up its efforts to eradicate child marriage and so-called "honour crimes" (Israel);**

161.219 **Step up efforts to combat and eliminate child, early and forced marriages (Sierra Leone);**

161.220 **Adopt legislative measures and policies to prevent early or forced marriages (Honduras);**

161.221 **Continue and intensify the actions to prohibit child marriage (Gabon);**

161.222 **Strengthen the adoption of socioeconomic programmes which promote the empowerment of women and their participation in public and political life (Angola);**

161.223 **Enact the Women's Reservation Bill providing for the reservation of seats for women in the parliament and legislative assemblies, in order to enhance the political participation of women (Netherlands);**

161.224 **Adopt the law on quotas which aims to reserve at least 33 per cent of seats in legislative bodies of the central and state governments for women (Senegal);**

161.225 **Adopt the law on quotas which aims to reserve seats for women in legislative bodies of the central and state governments (Algeria);**

161.226 **Accelerate work on the protection of the rights of children and women in particular (Turkey);**

161.227 **Prohibit child labour in family enterprises and extend the list of dangerous activities in line with the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Spain);**

161.228 **Consider repealing the provision that allows children to work in family-based occupations (Slovakia);**

161.229 **Continue strengthening national strategies to combat child labour (Brazil);**

161.230 **Continue to take all necessary measures to enhance the effectiveness of the protection of children, in particular in cases of sexual violence against children (Portugal);**

161.231 **Continue strengthening institutions to protect children and adolescent girls and boys, with a view to eradicating child labour, sexual exploitation and the practice of child marriage (Chile);**

161.232 **Develop specific guidelines for protection and support for victims of child sexual abuse and their families undergoing trial (Slovakia);**

161.233 **Introduce legislation to prohibit corporal punishment of children in the home and in all other settings, including as a sentence under traditional forms of justice (Liechtenstein);**

161.234 **Introduce comprehensive and continuous public education, awareness-raising and social mobilization programmes on the harmful effects of corporal punishment (Liechtenstein);**

161.235 **Establish a database of all cases of violence against children and explicitly prohibit all forms of corporal punishment of children under 18 years of age in all settings (Zambia);**

161.236 **Increase efforts to improve the rights of the child, notably through the effective application of the prohibition of child labour, as well as the rights of women (France);**

161.237 **Establish a monitoring mechanism to oversee the effective implementation of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Act, the National Child Labour Policy and the Accessible India Campaign to prevent exploitation of children and protect the rights of persons with disabilities (Thailand);**

161.238 **Take all appropriate measures in the implementation of the 2015 Juvenile Justice Act to give children aged 18 years and below an opportunity for rehabilitation (Botswana);**

161.239 **Continue efforts to promote opportunities for persons with disabilities to benefit from development gains (Libya);**

161.240 **Continue efforts aimed at improving the access of persons with disabilities to education, vocational training and health care (Oman);**

161.241 **Expand the integration of persons with disabilities into programmes and plans for sustainable development (Qatar);**

161.242 **Take holistic measures to protect the rights of persons with disabilities, the elderly and other vulnerable groups (China);**

161.243 **Continue policies aimed at ensuring the enjoyment of the rights and freedoms of persons with disabilities and access to resources and services under the Accessible India Campaign (Colombia);**

161.244 **Ensure that girls with disabilities are afforded the same right to education as all children (Australia);**

161.245 **Continue strengthening the policies in favour of the rights of peasants and other persons working in rural areas (Plurinational State of Bolivia);**

161.246 **Continue the endeavour to facilitate the access of elderly persons to preventive services and necessary treatment (Oman);**

161.247 **Immediately stop its atrocities and violations of human rights against the Kashmiri people, and allow them to exercise their right to self-determination through a free and fair plebiscite in accordance with the United Nations Security Council resolution (Pakistan);**

161.248 **Repeal the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act and the Public Safety Act and take credible actions to end the prevailing culture of impunity in "Indian-Occupied Kashmir" (Pakistan);**

161.249 **Immediately ban the use of pellet guns and hold accountable perpetrators who have used lethal force against unarmed civilians in "Indian-Occupied Kashmir" (Pakistan);**

161.250 **Provide unhindered access to the United Nations and other international organizations, and accede to the call of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to allow an OHCHR fact-finding mission to "Indian-**

Occupied Kashmir" to investigate and report on the human rights situation there (Pakistan).

162. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of India was headed by the Attorney General, Mukul Rohatgi, and composed of the following members:

- H.E. Ms. Ruchi Ghanashyam, Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of India;
- H.E. Mr. Rajiv K. Chander, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of India;
- Mr. P. S. Patwalia, Additional Solicitor General of India;
- Dr. Virander K. Paul, Deputy Permanent Representative of India;
- Prof. Ranbir Singh, Vice Chancellor, National Law University, Delhi;
- Mr. Manish Chauhan, Joint Secretary (UNES), Ministry of External Affairs;
- Ms. Uma Sekhar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs;
- Ms. Bina Prasad, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs;
- Mr. Chetan B. Sanghi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development;
- Mr. Vikram Singh Gaur, Joint Secretary, NITI Aayog;
- Mr. K. C. Samria, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Minority Affairs;
- Mr. Alok Ranjan Jha, Counsellor (Political), Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations Office in Geneva;
- Dr. A. Sudhakara Reddy, Counsellor (Legal), Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations office in Geneva;
- Mr. Priya Ranjan, Director, Ministry of Rural Development;
- Mr. Khagesh Garg, Director, Ministry of Social and Justice Empowerment;
- Dr. Yumnam Arun Kumar, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs;
- Ms. Nabanita Chakrabarti, Under Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs of India;
- Ms. Ridhi Sahni, Consultant in the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India;
- Mr. C. G. Naidu, Office of Attorney General of India.

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Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Brazil

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-seventh session from 1 to 12 May 2017. The review of Brazil was held at the 9th meeting, on 5 May 2017. The delegation of Brazil was headed by Luislinda Dias de Valois Santos, Minister of Human Rights. At its 14th meeting, held on 9 May 2017, the Working Group adopted the report on Brazil.

2. On 10 February 2017, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Brazil: Botswana, El Salvador and Kyrgyzstan.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Brazil:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/27/BRA/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/27/BRA/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/27/BRA/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Czechia, Germany, Mexico, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to Brazil through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation of the State under review engaged in the twenty-seventh session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review in a spirit of constructive dialogue. It considered the universal periodic review a dynamic exercise, and reaffirmed its commitment to working closely with government and non-governmental partners to fully implement the recommendations.

6. It stated that Brazil was going through a challenging period that imposed short-term sacrifices and that required structural reforms, which were vital to generate jobs and ensure equal opportunities for all, in full respect for human rights. In view of the gravity of the economic crisis inherited by the Government, Brazil had approved a constitutional amendment aimed at balancing public finances while preserving Brazilian social programmes. Without that adjustment, persistent fiscal imbalances could lead to a vicious cycle of low growth, high inflation and chronic unemployment, undermining the ability of the State to finance public policies that benefited the poor and vulnerable groups.

7. Faced with rapid changes in the demographic profile of Brazilian society, the Government sought to guarantee the long-term sustainability of the social security system. In doing so, it was committed to respecting acquired rights and ensuring transitional rules. The labour reform, in turn, was aimed at promoting investment and job creation. There were reforms that were being debated extensively and democratically in the National Congress.

8. *Concerning adequate housing*, the *My House, My Life* programme had been expanded. It was aimed at reducing the country's housing deficit by financing low-income

families' purchase of their first property. The properties financed under the programme complied with sanitation, safety and accessibility guidelines.

9. Brazil considered that popular participation was one of the pillars of democracy and the rule of law. That was the logic underlying the tradition of thematic conferences promoting participation in public policies. Brazil had held its twelfth National Conference on Human Rights in 2016, in addition to a series of other sectoral conferences.

10. Following a voluntary commitment made in the first cycle of the universal periodic review, the use of social indicators had allowed better monitoring and evaluation of public policies, becoming a concrete tool for the progressive realization of human rights, through the National System of Human Rights Indicators. In addition, the Government remained committed to the implementation of the third National Human Rights Plan, in force since 2009. In 2015, the National Observatory for Human Rights had been launched. It made information about the implementation of the National Human Rights Plan available for monitoring, by both government agencies and civil society, through an online platform.

11. Brazil reiterated its commitment at the highest level to fighting discrimination of any kind. In that regard, 20 per cent of vacancies in civil service examinations at the federal level were reserved for Afro-Brazilians. In universities and technical schools, 50 per cent of vacancies were allocated to students from public secondary schools, with the distribution of vacancies between Afro-Brazilians and indigenous people based on the proportion of such groups in each community. The Living Youth programme included preventive actions that promoted a sense of belonging and autonomy, besides countering violence. An affirmative action programme concerning members of the judiciary had also been proposed.

12. The delegation reiterated its condemnation of violence against indigenous peoples. It emphasized that the Integrated Plan for the Implementation of the National Policy for the Territorial and Environmental Management of Indigenous Lands sought to ensure indigenous occupation and management of indigenous peoples' lands. There were 462 indigenous lands already demarcated, besides other ongoing demarcation processes. The Government of Brazil was also committed to conducting consultations, in accordance with the International Labour Organization (ILO) Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169). The São Luiz hydroelectric project on the Tapajós river was a case in point.

13. With regard to public safety and the justice system, in addition to strengthening long-term preventive measures, such as education, income distribution and income-generation programmes, Brazil was committed to ensuring that the fight against crime was carried out with respect for human rights, as reflected in the National Security Plan. Brazil had invested in training police forces, guaranteeing access to justice, strengthening public defenders, and fighting impunity in cases of excessive use of force. It was also worth mentioning initiatives by both the Public Prosecutor's Office and the police forces, aimed at prioritizing investigation as opposed to repression.

14. In addition to cooperating with the states of Brazil to expand prison vacancies as a way to fight overcrowding, the Federal Government had encouraged alternative penalties for minor offences, as a way of reducing the incarceration rates. In addition, special task forces, in coordination with the Public Defender's Office, had been established to assess the situation of prisoners willing to return to family life. The Custody Hearings Promotion Programme had led to a 50 per cent reduction in provisional detentions.

15. In 2013, in compliance with the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, Brazil had established the National System to Prevent and Fight Torture, which comprised an independent body composed of 11 experts, with legal competence to inspect places of detention. The relevant committee had already carried out unannounced visits to more than 50 places of detention in 11 states.

16. The Government of Brazil had regulated the programme for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, which was currently handling about 400 cases. In addition to immediate protection of their physical integrity, the programme sought to mobilize public

agencies to investigate and prevent violations. When the states did not have a framework for protection, the Federal Government included defenders in its programme.

17. The National Truth Commission had acknowledged deaths and enforced disappearances perpetrated in the past, having located 33 bodies, besides identifying State actors as perpetrators of violations. Its report presented 29 recommendations, focused mainly on research and on redress actions, as well as on non-recurrence.

18. The 2014 Fédération internationale de football association (FIFA) World Cup and the 2016 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games had been held in Brazil without incidents and had left a significant legacy. Specific policies to protect the rights of children and adolescents and to fight racism in the context of such events had been put in place.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

19. During the interactive dialogue, 103 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

20. Montenegro asked for information on policies to eliminate violence against children, and on legislation to prohibit discrimination and violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

21. Morocco welcomed the national policies of Brazil on primary care, child malnutrition and mortality, gender equality in employment, and participation of women in public affairs.

22. Mozambique congratulated Brazil on the implementation of social programmes to reduce extreme poverty and on progress in the prevention of racial discrimination and in minorities' status.

23. Myanmar welcomed the efforts of Brazil to advance the rights of persons with disabilities, including the National Plan on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2011.

24. Namibia applauded Brazil for its national programmes aimed at improving the living standards of its vulnerable populations, such as Afro-Brazilians and indigenous peoples.

25. Nepal appreciated the progress made by Brazil on reduction of poverty, promotion of social equality, the health sector, combating violence against women and the fight against modern slavery.

26. The Netherlands regretted to note a lack of progress in corporate social responsibility, especially in the Amazon regions, and continuing attacks against journalists and human rights defenders.

27. Nicaragua welcomed the progress by Brazil on human rights since its last universal periodic review.

28. Norway commended efforts in reducing poverty, combating slave labour and enhancing women's rights and the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, but expressed concern at the situation of indigenous peoples.

29. Pakistan commended the development of the National System of Human Rights Indicators, the promotion of racial equality, access to justice and programmes on education, health and nutrition.

30. Paraguay welcomed the commitment by Brazil to the international human rights system and the ratification of a significant number of human rights instruments.

31. Peru underlined the progress made by Brazil in the fight against poverty, and affirmative action for an increased presence of Afro-Brazilians in the public administration.

32. The Philippines lauded poverty alleviation programmes, achievements in gender equality and the increased presence of women in the labour market.

33. Poland acknowledged the accomplishments of Brazil in reducing poverty, in improving access to education, and in health care, and efforts to eradicate slave and child labour.

34. Portugal noted that in 2015 Brazil had organized a seminar on human rights for the lusophone countries. Portugal welcomed the National System of Human Rights Indicators, and efforts to improve the situation of persons with disabilities.

35. The Republic of Korea noted that Brazil had met most of the health targets in the Millennium Development Goals and had strengthened the mandate of its National Human Rights Council.

36. The Republic of Moldova encouraged Brazil to continue efforts in advancing indigenous peoples' rights, to protect indigenous lands and heritage and to fight discrimination and violence against indigenous peoples.

37. The Russian Federation praised the achievements of Brazil in fighting gender, racial, ethnic and other forms of discrimination, but noted that indigenous peoples remained among the most vulnerable groups in the population.

38. While noting the progress made in combating racial discrimination and violence against women, Rwanda encouraged Brazil to enhance those efforts.

39. Senegal expressed satisfaction in regard to the reduction of extreme poverty, programmes to access housing, and the national plan of action for women for 2013-2015.

40. Serbia encouraged Brazil to continue combating torture and ill-treatment, reducing overcrowding in penitentiary institutions and giving greater emphasis to foster-care programmes for minors.

41. Sierra Leone noted the national plans on education, on combating sexual violence against children and on sustainable development. It encouraged Brazil to further protect the rights of persons of African descent and the rights of its indigenous communities.

42. Singapore commended Brazil for progress in reducing poverty, in promoting gender equality and empowering women and in promoting sustainable development.

43. Slovakia noted legislative changes to tackle the excessive use of force by law enforcement officials and the National Programme for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders.

44. Slovenia noted the establishment of institutions with specialized services for victims of domestic violence, and the adoption of the National Policy on Alternative Punishment.

45. South Africa noted the efforts made by Brazil to reduce poverty and to promote equality through affirmative action for Afro-Brazilians.

46. Spain noted the efforts made by Brazil to reduce poverty and social inequality and to promote the rights of persons with disabilities. It noted the persistence of violence against women.

47. Sri Lanka noted the progress made in combating extreme poverty and promoting social equality, improving access to health care, reducing infant mortality and promoting gender equality.

48. The State of Palestine noted the efforts made by Brazil to protect the rights of persons with disabilities and of human rights defenders. It encouraged Brazil to ensure that the National Human Rights Council was in compliance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles).

49. The Sudan commended Brazil for its efforts in reducing poverty and infant mortality, promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and ensuring access to adequate housing.

50. Sweden noted the overcrowding in prisons, the large number of child brides and an increase in violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons.

51. Switzerland noted delays in land demarcation processes and challenges faced by human rights defenders. It remained concerned about the large number of illegal abortions.

52. In response to some of the questions received, the delegation stated that Brazil was investing in initiatives such as University for All (PROUNI), the Student Finance Fund (FIES), the National High School Examination (ENEM) and the National Common Curriculum Base (BNCC).

53. Brazil had adopted, in February 2017, a secondary school educational reform, after much debate and wide discussion. It represented the culmination of a national effort to overcome low indicators related to exclusion, dropout and grade repetition rates.

54. The Government had improved the More Doctors programme to the benefit of users of the public health system. In addition to bringing physicians to regions where there was a shortage of medical professionals, the programme provided for the construction, renovation and expansion of basic health units, and training of health-care professionals. The "Stork Network" had been expanded to promote actions focused on disadvantaged populations, including indigenous peoples and Afro-Brazilian *quilombola* communities.

55. In relation to the Zika epidemic, Brazil had intensified measures to combat the Aedes aegypti mosquito. It had expanded the access to diagnosis and treatment, the rehabilitation of newborns, and the psychosocial support for families, among other measures.

56. Brazil considered that inclusive social policies, the fight against hunger and the reduction of inequalities were central to ensuring the realization of human rights. The combination of policies of income transfer, such as the Family Stipend, the consistent rise in the minimum wage, and family agriculture had contributed to significantly improving the social conditions of the population, since the last review.

57. Thailand noted the efforts made by Brazil to improve human rights mechanisms, to combat human trafficking and to eliminate child labour and sexual exploitation of children. It noted inadequate day-care facilities for pregnant women in prisons.

58. Timor-Leste noted the adoption of the national plans on education, and on combating sexual violence against children and human trafficking.

59. Togo noted the ratification of many international human rights instruments and the efforts that Brazil had made to reduce extreme poverty and to help the poorest families.

60. Tunisia noted the establishment of the National Human Rights Council and progress achieved in reducing poverty, developing social security and the health-care system and protecting the rights of persons with disabilities.

61. Turkey commended progress in several areas, but noted a high rate of poverty, shortcomings in the access to safe drinking water and sanitation, and deficiencies in the prison system.

62. Uganda highlighted the efforts made by Brazil to strengthen various human rights institutions.

63. Ukraine noted the efforts of Brazil in the area of poverty reduction, education and health care, and the launching of the National System of Human Rights Indicators.

64. The United Arab Emirates noted the efforts made by Brazil to promote and protect human rights, particularly the rights of women.

65. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland noted progress in several areas, including torture prevention and recognition of same-sex marriage. It urged Brazil to strengthen protections for journalists and human rights defenders.

66. The United States of America noted the efforts of Brazil in several areas, but remained concerned about reports of unlawful killings, violence against environmental activists, inhumane prison conditions, prolonged pretrial detention, and delays of trials.

67. Uruguay noted the efforts made by Brazil to improve birth registration and encouraged Brazil to continue those efforts. It expressed concern about proposed constitutional amendments seeking to reduce the age of criminal responsibility.

68. Uzbekistan noted the efforts made by Brazil to reduce poverty, promote social equality and combat violence against women, and the adoption of the human rights indicators.

69. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was concerned at the human rights situation in Brazil, in particular at widespread corruption, increasing discrimination against indigenous people and people of African descent, and sexual harassment against children.

70. Albania commended steps taken by Brazil to design policies to fight poverty and help families in need. It invited Brazil to further strengthen its human rights mechanisms.

71. Algeria welcomed progress made by Brazil to improve the rights of children, women, indigenous people and people of African descent, and encouraged it to continue its efforts.

72. Angola recognized that Brazil had established an observatory system for follow-up to the recommendations of the international human rights mechanisms. It commended Brazil for its programmes aimed at reducing poverty, such as *Bolsa Família*.

73. Argentina welcomed the adoption of the law criminalizing femicide, and efforts to combat discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons.

74. Armenia welcomed measures taken to reduce poverty, protect children living in the street, promote the right to truth and reconciliation, and combat modern slavery and child labour.

75. Australia was concerned that economic recession created a challenging environment for human rights in Brazil. It welcomed the appointment of family violence judges in every state of Brazil.

76. Austria commended Brazil for the adoption of the law on femicide. It encouraged Brazil to implement the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples.

77. Azerbaijan welcomed legislative measures taken by Brazil to enhance access to justice, and progress made in combating modern slavery and human trafficking.

78. The Bahamas welcomed progress made by Brazil to reduce poverty, implement development strategies, and combat modern slavery and inequalities among men and women in the labour market.

79. Bahrain noted with satisfaction the number of recommendations accepted by Brazil, especially those aimed at eliminating racial discrimination and at income inequality.

80. Bangladesh noted the efforts made by Brazil to reduce disparities and considered it especially important that it continue preserving the rights of indigenous peoples.

81. Belgium congratulated Brazil on the adoption of its first National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security.

82. Bhutan noted the steps taken by Brazil to strengthen its legal and institutional human rights framework, reduce poverty and promote social equity.

83. Botswana commended Brazil for its measures to reduce poverty and improve social security. It noted areas of concern, including police violence.

84. Burkina Faso welcomed the achievements of Brazil in the field of birth registration and welcomed its efforts in promoting human rights education.

85. Cabo Verde commended the positive measures taken by Brazil since the last universal periodic review and encouraged it to continue its progress despite current difficulties.

86. Canada recognized the achievements of Brazil regarding social, economic and cultural rights, in particular the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger.

87. Chad welcomed the creation by Brazil of a national human rights indicators system, and its engagement with the treaty bodies and OHCHR. It recognized the contribution of Brazil to OHCHR through a technical cooperation project.

88. Chile highlighted the progress made in Brazil and called upon Brazil to intensify efforts to reduce high homicide rates and armed violence.

89. China welcomed efforts to reduce poverty, combat racial discrimination and modern slavery and adopted laws to guarantee the rights of vulnerable persons.

90. The delegation of Brazil reaffirmed that the inclusion of people with disabilities was being mainstreamed by the Federal Government in education, health, housing and other policies. A landmark in this connection was the Brazilian inclusion law, which guaranteed improved social inclusion, and the amendment of the Civil Code, improving legislation on physical accessibility and accessibility in the area of communication.

91. Regarding women's rights, the Women Living Without Violence programme had promoted strategic actions to combat violence against women. This had also been reinforced by the criminalization of femicide, as a heinous crime. Between 2004 and 2014 the average income of employed women increased by 61 per cent, exceeding for the first time the threshold of 70 per cent of men's income. In the same vein, women accounted for 31 per cent of the candidates in the 2014 elections, compared to 22.43 per cent in 2010.

92. In regard to the rights of the child, the Happy Child programme was aimed at breaking the cycle in which malnutrition and poverty in early childhood jeopardized the future of new generations. The guarantee of children's rights had been further reinforced by new legislation that had prohibited corporal punishment and that had made sexual exploitation of children and adolescents a heinous crime.

93. The delegation of Brazil stated that in 2013 the national system for the promotion of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights had been created to allow coordination of public policies on that subject. In 2015, the Federal Government had established the Interministerial Committee to Combat Homophobia. The Supreme Federal Court had legalized civil unions between people of the same sex.

94. Brazil had also made use of all legal measures available regarding corporate accountability for human rights abuses. Concerning the accident at the Fundão Dam in 2015, emergency aid had been paid directly to about 20,000 people. By March 2017, the equivalent of approximately US$566 million had been invested in redress. In addition, significant fines had been levied against the companies responsible for the disaster. The courts were evaluating a lawsuit for approximately $55 billion that had been filed by competent authorities against the companies in question.

95. Regarding contemporary forms of slavery, a constitutional amendment allowing for expropriation of properties where labour conditions analogous to slavery were found had been passed in 2014. The National Plan for Eradication of Slave Labour had been adopted in 2016. People and companies caught up using such labour were included in a "dirty list", last published in March 2017.

96. Since its last review, Brazil had adopted significant measures to promote and protect the right of migrants and refugees. In 2012, it started issuing visas on a humanitarian basis to Haitians affected by the earthquake in that country. The following year, Brazil adopted an open-door policy for persons affected by the Syrian crisis. In April 2017, the Congress had adopted a new immigration law, which reinforced the human rights perspective in Brazilian migration policy. The new legislation established as guiding principles the fight against xenophobia, racism and discrimination, non-criminalization of migration, social and labour inclusion, and the protection of children and adolescents.

97. Colombia highlighted the commitment of offering differentiated health and education services to indigenous populations.

98. Côte d'Ivoire noted the will of authorities to cooperate with United Nations mechanisms and integrate their principles into national legislation.

99. Germany commended progress made, and made three recommendations.

100. Czechia welcomed the efforts by Brazil to monitor and assess the realization of human rights through a system of indicators and an online platform for international human rights recommendations.

101. Denmark noted with concern the prison conditions encountered by women who in that vulnerable situation had specific needs and requirements.

102. Ecuador acknowledged the efforts made in the fight against poverty and slave labour, as well as the promotion of the equality of persons with disabilities.

103. Egypt commended the efforts made by Brazil towards social equality, to reduce poverty and to combat child labour.

104. El Salvador commended Brazil on having ratified most of the human rights instruments and for the incorporation of the human rights principles into its national legislation.

105. Estonia acknowledged the efforts of Brazil to enhance the protection of human rights, including by implementing differentiated services for indigenous peoples in the areas of health and education.

106. Ethiopia commended Brazil for its success in lifting 36 million Brazilians out of extreme poverty between 2004 and 2014 and noted with appreciation the accelerated growth and employment creation strategies.

107. Finland commended Brazil for its efforts to promote the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons but expressed concern about increased homophobia and transphobia and about criminal measures against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, as well as about the possible rejection of policies aimed at overcoming gender and sexual orientation inequalities in schools.

108. France commended the establishment of a national human rights institution and acknowledged the positive commitments of the authorities to promote women's rights and gender equality.

109. Gabon welcomed the social programmes aimed at promoting women's rights and those aimed at promoting the rights of the child and improving children's quality of life.

110. Georgia highlighted steps taken by Brazil to reduce extreme poverty and fight against modern slavery and positively noted the measures taken in promoting children's rights.

111. Croatia commended Brazil for steps taken with regard to promotion and protection of the rights of children, especially homeless children.

112. Ghana was concerned that only two states, Rio de Janeiro and Pernambuco, had set up local preventive mechanisms to achieve effective impact on inhibiting torture and ill-treatment.

113. Greece highlighted the establishment of the National Human Rights Council in 2014 and the firm commitment and remarkable efforts in combating slave labour.

114. Guatemala was concerned about the reports of the growing number of incidents of armed violence, including murders.

115. Haiti welcomed the success of the social programme aimed at reducing poverty by affirmative action policies.

116. The Holy See welcomed the initiatives aimed at poverty reduction, for example the *Bolsa Familia* initiative.

117. Honduras encouraged Brazil to continue along the path to eradicate discrimination affecting persons of African descent.

118. Iceland regretted that women continued to be prosecuted in cases of unlawful abortion and noted that access to legal abortion was not always available for victims of sexual violence.

119. India encouraged Brazil to enhance its efforts towards providing health care and education to its indigenous people and Afro-Brazilians.

120. Indonesia welcomed the establishment of the National System to Prevent and Combat Torture, in 2013, and the adoption of the National Education Plan for 2014-2024.

121. The Islamic Republic of Iran commended the achievements in the domain of social and economic rights, including poverty alleviation, promoting social equality, combating slave labour, and health.

122. Iraq commended combating of police violence and of rights violations by the police, and combating slavery, and welcomed the National Education Plan for 2014-2024.

123. Ireland welcomed the creation of the National System to Prevent and Combat Torture. It was concerned about incidents of targeted killings of human rights defenders.

124. Israel commended the establishment of the National Human Rights Council, the Committee to Fight Homophobia and the National Plan to Combat Human Trafficking.

125. Italy welcomed measures to combat slave labour, the adoption of laws concerning human trafficking and femicide, and the establishment of the National System to Prevent and Combat Torture.

126. Japan commended Brazil for improving the school enrolment rate and literacy rate, and appreciated efforts regarding minimizing racial discrimination.

127. Lebanon commended Brazil for measures taken to combat human trafficking, violence against women and exploitation of women.

128. Libya commended the adoption of policies to combat poverty, the education plan for 2014-2024 and the promotion of better health care.

129. Liechtenstein welcomed the adoption of the "Boy Bernardo Act", but it was concerned that corporal punishment remained widely practised. It also welcomed the efforts made by Brazil to eradicate child labour.

130. Madagascar welcomed the adoption of the national primary care policy and of the national education plan for 2014-2024, and the successful application of positive discrimination.

131. Malaysia commended Brazil for its determination to pursue development, social justice and the strengthening of civil and political rights of its citizens. Malaysia encouraged Brazil to continue to combat poverty.

132. Maldives commended the efforts made by Brazil to eradicate child labour, and its progress in the health sector. It applauded its "National Policy of Primary Attention".

133. Mexico acknowledged the progress made by Brazil in social assistance and poverty reduction and in combating gender-based violence, and welcomed the new migration law.

134. Mongolia welcomed the initiatives of Brazil to protect human rights defenders and underlined its progress on improving the conditions of vulnerable groups.

135. Brazil thanked the delegations for their constructive participation and encouraging comments. It thanked the troika and the Secretariat, as well as the civil society organizations, human rights defenders and academics, and the people in Brazil.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

136. **The following recommendations will be examined by Brazil, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirty-sixth session of the Human Rights Council:**

136.1 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Albania) (Angola) (Argentina) (Montenegro) (Portugal);**

136.2 **Sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (El Salvador) (Ukraine);**

136.3 **Speed up its accession to the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Gabon);**

136.4 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and accept the competence of the Committee as regards the inquiry procedure and inter-State communications (Finland);**

136.5 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Albania) (El Salvador) (Georgia) (Montenegro) (Liechtenstein);**

136.6 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Ukraine);**

136.7 **Ratify, before the next universal periodic review cycle, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Czechia);**

136.8 **Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Croatia) (Mongolia);**

136.9 **Sign and accede to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Sierra Leone);**

136.10 **Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Chile) (Indonesia) (Sri Lanka);**

136.11 **Step up the procedure for the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Their Families (Togo);**

136.12 **Promptly ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Guatemala);**

136.13 **Sign and ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (El Salvador);**

136.14 **Accelerate efforts towards ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) (Philippines);**

136.15 **Ratify the Arms Trade Treaty and adapt its national legislation to the Treaty (Guatemala);**

136.16 **Consider ratifying the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) (Nicaragua);**

136.17 **Ratify the International Labour Organization (ILO) Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87) and finalize the domestic procedures to accede to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Ecuador);**

136.18 **Ratify the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute with a view to contributing to the activation of the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court over the crime of aggression in 2017 (Liechtenstein);**

136.19 **Ratify the Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity (Armenia);**

136.20 **Select national candidates for the United Nations Treaty Body elections through an open, merit-based process (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

136.21 **Reinforce the fruitful cooperation with the treaty body organs of the United Nations (Côte d'Ivoire);**

136.22 **Further strengthen its active engagement with the international community to promote human rights in all areas (Myanmar);**

136.23 **Continue efforts to strengthen the national human rights institutions (Nepal);**

136.24 **Continue working to ensure that the National Human Rights Institution gains "A" status in compliance with the Paris Principles (Portugal);**

136.25 **Bring its National Human Rights Council in line with the Paris Principles (Sierra Leone);**

136.26 **Provide the National Human Rights Council with the necessary resources to enhance its independence to effectively carry out its functions (Uganda);**

136.27 **Provide the National Human Rights Council with the necessary budgetary, administrative and political independence to fully implement its functions (Greece);**

136.28 **Provide the National Human Rights Council with the budgetary, administrative and political independence, which is necessary to exercise its new mandate (Guatemala);**

136.29 **Fully align its national legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Estonia);**

136.30 **Continue with the commendable efforts to strengthen the legal and institutional framework for the promotion and protection of human rights and to reduce poverty and promote social equality (Bhutan);**

136.31 **Bring its national human rights institutions, especially the National Human Rights Council, fully in line with the Paris Principles (Poland);**

136.32 **Introduce mandatory human rights training for police agencies, and implement an evidence-based policing programme, to reduce deaths from police action by 10 per cent over the universal periodic review cycle (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

136.33 **Implement human rights training programmes for the security forces, emphasizing the use of force according to the criteria of necessity and proportionality (Italy);**

136.34 **Continue improving human rights education and training for enforcement agencies, public officials, and prison guards (Malaysia);**

136.35 **Continue efforts to enhance public awareness on issues of ethnic and racial equality and to combat violence against indigenous peoples (Uzbekistan);**

136.36 **Carry out specific legislative reform to strengthen measures against discrimination on the basis of gender and ethnicity (Uganda);**

136.37 **Take measures to eliminate cases of discrimination against certain groups in society (Iraq);**

136.38 **Support initiatives and strategies to combat discrimination and promote the inclusion of vulnerable persons (Madagascar);**

136.39 **Take necessary measures to address homophobic and transphobic crime, including by establishing a system for recording such crimes (Sweden);**

136.40 **Take urgent measures to adopt legislation sanctioning discrimination and incitement to violence on the grounds of sexual orientation, and investigate and sanction cases of violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer persons (Argentina);**

136.41 **Continue advancing the promotion of laws and initiatives that ban discrimination and incitement to violence on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity, in particular in the case of young persons and adolescents (Chile);**

136.42 **Redouble the capacity-building efforts for all the security forces, aiming at avoiding practices of racial bias, or, directed, among others, against vulnerable minorities such as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Colombia);**

136.43 **Continue taking measures to develop legislation and policies at federal, state and municipal level to punish and prevent hate crimes and discrimination against the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex population (Finland);**

136.44 **Approve a specific law, in line with its international human rights obligations, that prohibits discrimination and incitement to violence based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Honduras);**

136.45 **Follow measures taken at the national level to ensure that municipalities in Brazil develop specific policies to guarantee rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people (Israel);**

136.46 **Strengthen measures to prevent and punish racism, discrimination and violence against indigenous peoples and people of African descent and violence against women and girls (Rwanda);**

136.47 **Strengthen policies related to the fight against discrimination against indigenous and Afro-Brazilian children and others in vulnerable situations from an integral and intersectoral perspective (Chile);**

136.48 **Further promote ethnic and racial equality, building on the important policy measures already taken (Greece);**

136.49 **Continue taking active measures aimed at eradicating discrimination against Afro-Brazilian women based on their gender and ethnicity (Namibia);**

136.50 **Consolidate the progress made towards reaching the Sustainable Development Goals, and continue efforts towards inclusive socioeconomic development programmes with a focus on poverty eradication (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

136.51 **Develop a national action plan on business and human rights in order to prevent development projects from violating the rights of traditional populations, indigenous peoples and workers and causing damage to the environment, and in order to ensure an effective remedy with meaningful consultations with the affected communities (Netherlands);**

136.52 **Draft a comprehensive national plan of action on business and human rights, that would take into account the United Nations Guiding Principles in this regard (Paraguay);**

136.53 **Draw up an action plan for business and human rights (Sierra Leone);**

136.54 **To further continue the efforts to punish those responsible for the breaking of the retaining walls in Jacarei and Mariana; and to ensure that the victims of this event are guaranteed their right to access to justice, and their right to fair compensation, remediation and reparations for the damage caused. We recommend that Brazil share these acquired experiences through its constructive and substantive participation in the Intergovernmental Working**

Group established through resolution 26/9 of the Human Rights Council (Ecuador);

126.55 Continue its efforts on the implementation of the National Policy on Climate Change on reducing deforestation in the Amazon region (Ethiopia);

136.56 Ensure that its Anti-Terrorist Legislation 2016 corresponds to international human rights standards (Egypt);

136.57 That anti-terrorism law combats only terrorist groups and does not consider human rights defenders (Iraq);

136.58 Adopt a code of conduct based on international human rights standards in order to define specific conditions for the use of force by law enforcement officials during protests and riots (Slovakia);

136.59 Strengthen measures to prevent abuses by some law enforcement officials, including through providing appropriate human rights training (Rwanda);

136.60 Continue putting in place measures aimed at preventing violence and racial discrimination against Afro-Brazilians and at protecting their cultural heritage sites and places of worship (Namibia);

136.61 Conduct thorough, impartial, and timely investigations into all allegations of unlawful killings, abuse, torture, and corruption involving security forces and prison personnel (United States of America);

136.62 Ensure investigations and recommend action against abuses by law enforcers, as a way of curbing violations (Botswana);

136.63 Strengthen prevention and effectiveness of investigation of cases of police violence thorough improved supervision and human rights training of law enforcement personnel, namely the military police, and ensure accountability for any acts of police violence (Czechia);

136.64 Ensure that acts of violence committed by members of security forces are prosecuted in order to combat impunity (France);

136.65 Take further steps in order to prevent violence against people of African descent (Republic of Korea);

136.66 Take measures to improve the situation of underreporting of cases of violence and discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people, and develop policies to punish and prevent those actions (Israel);

136.67 Ensure that all hate crimes against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons are thoroughly investigated and prosecuted and seek to reduce hate by integrating human rights education into school curricula (Canada);

136.68 Undertake strategies to reduce gun violence, particularly among poor black youth (Bahamas);

136.69 Take all necessary measures to reduce murder rates among Afro-Brazilian men, particularly through robust educational programmes adapted to their needs, following recommendations 119.138, 119.154, 119.157, 119.158, 119.159 and 119.160 from the second cycle (Haiti);

136.70 Refrain from resorting to violence and extrajudicial executions by the security forces, in particular the so-called "war on drugs" (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

136.71 End extrajudicial killings and associated impunity, including by passing draft bill No. 4471/2012, by abolishing the classification "resistance to arrest followed by death" and by ensuring that all deaths following police interventions are impartially investigated (Germany);

136.72 Continue its efforts to combat torture and ill-treatment (Algeria);

136.73 Intensify efforts aimed at combating and preventing torture and other forms of ill-treatment (Georgia);

136.74 Establish a formal adhesion programme which includes the allocation of funds by the federal government to support the national policy on torture prevention (Ghana);

136.75 Continue taking measures aimed at improving the conditions in prisons and other detention facilities (Namibia);

136.76 Improve detention conditions, including basic sanitation and access to water, food and medical care (Republic of Korea);

136.77 Address overcrowding, sanitation, violence, and medical and psychological care in prisons (South Africa);

136.78 Take measures to reduce overincarceration, notably by encouraging the use of alternative sentencing and by making sure that pre-trial hearings are widely used (Spain);

136.79 Address the problem of severely overcrowded prisons to eliminate inhumane conditions and take all measures to prevent torture (Turkey);

136.80 Adopt without delay urgent measures to stop torture, violence, killings and serious overcrowding and degrading conditions in the prisons in Brazil (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

136.81 Working jointly with the Federal States to improve detention conditions in Brazilian prisons (Algeria);

136.82 Continue improving prison conditions and reducing overcrowding (Angola);

136.83 Ensure respect for and protection of human rights for all detainees including by guaranteeing detention conditions in compliance with domestic as well as international law and standards and by protecting against cruel and inhuman treatment (Austria);

136.84 Improve as quickly as possible the different aspects of prisoners' conditions (Cabo Verde);

136.85 Proceed with the enactment of legislation effectively implementing the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment at both state and federal level and adopt measures to adhere to the UN Nelson Mandela Rules (Czechia);

136.86 Consolidate the Federal National System, including by supporting States to set up Local Preventive Mechanisms (Ghana);

136.87 Create local preventive mechanisms at each state level for effective implementation of the National Mechanism for the Prevention and Combat of Torture (Turkey);

136.88 Ensure that Local Preventive Mechanisms are created by encouraging states to do so as envisaged by the national law on torture and expand the application of custody hearings to the entire country as set by Resolution 213 of the National Council of Justice (Denmark);

136.89 Continue to make efforts to protect human rights of persons in detention facilities (Holy See);

136.90 Ensure conditions at detention centres comply with international and Brazilian law and that particular attention is given to conditions faced by vulnerable prisoners including pregnant women, children, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons; and provide human rights training to officials in the legal and judicial system (Iceland);

136.91 **Enhance efforts to reform the prison system and to ensure the protection of the human rights of all detainees (Italy);**

136.92 **Take measures to improve conditions related to treatment of inmates within prisons, through increasing the capacity as already initiated by the Government and through measures for maintaining order within prisons (Japan);**

136.93 **Take necessary measures to increase the number of gynaecologists in the Brazilian prison system (Sweden);**

136.94 **Incorporate the Bangkok Rules into public policies to protect female inmates and adopt bill 5654/2016 that prohibits the use of handcuffs before, during and after childbirth on women deprived of liberty (Denmark);**

136.95 **Improve prison conditions, particularly addressing overcrowding and violence, including in prisons for women (Australia);**

136.96 **Improve facilities dedicated to pregnancy and maternity in prisons, in line with the Bangkok Rules (Thailand);**

136.97 **Strengthen prison reform efforts to protect female prisoners from sexual abuse and violence (Bahamas);**

136.98 **Step up efforts to abolish the practice of racial profiling and arbitrary arrest by the police and security forces (Indonesia);**

136.99 **Continue protecting the natural family and marriage, formed by a husband and a wife, as the fundamental unit of society, as well as the unborn (Holy See);**

136.100 **Carry out efforts for the implementation of recommendations on the improvement of the judiciary and the judicial system that the Russian Federation made at the last universal periodic review (Russian Federation);**

136.101 **Consider expanding application of the Custody Hearings Programme and make it feasible before all State Courts (Serbia);**

136.102 **Establish a mechanism to allow for speedy and correct judicial decisions under strict observance of constitutional and international law regarding the territorial rights of indigenous peoples (Austria);**

136.103 **Continue its efforts on further improving the judicial system with practical measures (Azerbaijan);**

136.104 **Accelerate the establishment and the effective implementation of a solid public defence system in all states, in agreement with recommendations 119.91, 119.10, 119.12 and 119.14 from the second cycle (Haiti);**

136.105 **Expand custody hearing programmes to cover all pre-trial detainees by passing draft bill 554/2011. Provide specific training according to the Istanbul Protocol to judges and public prosecutors working in custody hearings (Germany);**

136.106 **Ensure that legislation relating to the prison situation and criminal justice is in accordance with international human rights standards (Mexico);**

136.107 **Improve judicial processes to minimize the length of pre-trial detention and speed up trials, and consider alternatives to detention to address prison overcrowding (United States of America);**

136.108 **Plan and take concrete measures in the mid-term period with the objective of reducing pre-trial time for remand prisoners and reduce the overall number of prisoners awaiting trial rather than serving sentences (Slovenia);**

136.109 Take further efforts in combating violence against women such as enhancing the trust in the judicial system, measures to prevent violence, and promoting services and networks for women in rural areas (Spain);

136.110 Restore democracy and the rule of law indispensable for the full enjoyment of human rights, harmed by the parliamentary coup d'état against President Dilma Rousseff (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

136.111 Continue efforts to provide better protection to human rights defenders and strengthen civil society as an essential partner in boosting the human rights system (Tunisia);

136.112 Ensure that the deaths of human rights defenders are promptly and thoroughly investigated, and that those found to be responsible are brought to justice (Belgium);

136.113 Provide full implementation of the National Policy for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders (State of Palestine);

136.114 Take all necessary measures to ensure the physical integrity of journalists and human rights defenders, including an explicit and published decision on instituting a federal investigation and prosecution in all cases involving violence against human rights defenders (Netherlands);

136.115 Restore functionality of the National Programme for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders (Norway);

136.116 Take more decisive steps towards implementing the National Programme for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders (Poland);

136.117 Review its respective Decree of 2016 related to protection of human rights defenders in order to ensure wider participation of civil society and enhanced protection of human rights defenders and their families (Slovakia);

136.118 Implement the National Plan for the Protection of Defenders (Australia);

136.119 Strengthen the national programme for the protection of human rights defenders, in particular its funding and human resources (Czechia);

136.120 Take all necessary measures to guarantee the safety of human rights defenders and journalists as they carry out their tasks (France);

136.121 Take further steps to protect human rights defenders, including those working in relation to the rights of indigenous, including through ensuring impartial, thorough and effective investigations into all attacks, harassment and intimidation against human rights defenders and prosecution of all alleged perpetrators of such offences; and further, fully implement the national programme to protect human rights defenders through the adoption of a specific legal framework, allocation of a budget and the setting up of multi-disciplinary teams to implement it (Ireland);

136.122 Further intensify the implementation of the National Policy for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, and the Programme to Protect Human Rights Defenders (Mongolia);

136.123 Strengthen civil society to participate in humanitarian assistance and to major sports events (Sudan);

136.124 Continue its efforts to combat contemporary forms of slavery, including trafficking and exploitation of persons, and provide support and protection to victims, paying particular attention to more vulnerable groups (Nicaragua);

136.125 Adopt regulations to operationalize constitutional amendments related to slave labour (Ghana);

136.126 **Pursue efforts aimed at the prohibition of all forms of slavery by strengthening the resources of the National Commission for the Elimination of Slavery (Senegal);**

136.127 **Develop a national strategy to tackle modern slavery, including ratification of the 2014 ILO protocol to the Forced Labour Convention, and increased efforts to protect rural workers and women at risk of trafficking (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

136.128 **Effectively implement the anti-trafficking law and provide resources and training for government officials (United States of America);**

136.129 **Preserve its positive record on combating trafficking and modern slavery by fully implementing activities envisaged in its second National Plan to Fight Human Trafficking (Azerbaijan);**

136.130 **Continue policies to combat trafficking, and promote assistance to victims (Lebanon);**

136.131 **Continue fighting against slave labour, in particular in the textile sector (Peru);**

136.132 **Further continue the combating of slave and child labour in the country (Ethiopia);**

136.133 **Redouble efforts to further reduce the income gap between the Afro-Brazilians, especially Afro-Brazilian women, and the general population (Pakistan);**

136.134 **Continue to promote sustainable economic and social development and improve people's living standards (China);**

136.135 **Continue to strengthen and improve the *Bolsa Família* programme in the context of the fight against hunger and poverty (Pakistan);**

136.136 **Strengthen the public policies to reduce the housing shortage and create conditions for access to affordable housing for middle- and low-income households (Angola);**

136.137 **Continue efforts to ensure adequate housing for all (Bangladesh);**

136.138 **Take further steps in enhancing the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, with a view to fully eradicating child homelessness (Croatia);**

136.139 **Continue to implement and strengthen public policies and programmes for inclusion, reduction of poverty and inequality, non-discrimination and promotion of equality and inclusion (Nicaragua);**

136.140 **Continue measures to combat poverty and social inequality by implementing rural development plans covering vulnerable groups, in particular rural women (Sri Lanka);**

136.141 **Implement further measures to address the problems related to poverty and socioeconomic inequality in respect of regions and vulnerable groups of the population, such as rural residents (Uzbekistan);**

136.142 **Stop plans to freeze social spending during the next twenty years, that are inconsistent with the international obligations of the country with more than 16 million persons in extreme poverty (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

136.143 **Continue the substantive efforts in the area of governance and poverty reduction (Côte d'Ivoire);**

136.144 **Continue efforts to combat poverty and to promote social equality (Lebanon);**

136.145 **Address challenges of water and sanitation in favelas by full implementation of the National Sanitation Plan (South Africa);**

136.146 **Take further efforts to improve access to water and sanitation, especially in the north and north-east of the country, through the effective implementation of the principle of equality, and to gradually reduce inequalities through the implementation of the National Sanitation Plan (Spain);**

136.147 **Strengthen endeavours to ensure access to safe drinking water and sanitation through installing water and sanitation networks (Turkey);**

136.148 **Further strengthen the social security system and effectively protect the rights of vulnerable groups (China);**

136.149 **Continue efforts to reduce unemployment rates, including strengthening vocational training programmes (Libya);**

136.150 **Strengthen policies on the elimination of inequalities in the access to employment on the grounds of gender or racial origin (Colombia);**

136.151 **Step up efforts to promote, in law and in practice, the inclusion of persons of African descent in the educational system and on the labour market by taking policy measures (Honduras);**

136.152 **Continue efforts to develop and implement inclusive health and education policies to benefit all segments of society (Nepal);**

136.153 **Continue strengthening efforts for providing quality and accessible health facilities and services to improve the disparity in life expectancy among the populations (Sri Lanka);**

136.154 **Continue reinforcing the policy on effective and qualitative access to health services for vulnerable populations, especially women of African descent who still remain the group with the highest mortality (Colombia);**

136.155 **Pursue the human and financial investments in the health and hospital services with the aim of reinforcing the health system (Morocco);**

136.156 **Widen health care to vulnerable groups, in particular women of minority groups (Republic of Korea);**

136.157 **Ensure continued effectiveness of strategies to combat HIV-AIDS, particularly among youth and other specifically affected groups (Bahamas);**

136.158 **Ensure access to reproductive health care, including high-quality prenatal care, and information on sexual and reproductive health, contraception and emergency contraception, and safe abortion to all women without discrimination (Switzerland);**

136.159 **Ensure universal access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services, without discrimination and in accordance with the commitments made, among others, in the Montevideo Consensus (Uruguay);**

136.160 **Continue the commitments made in terms of access to the voluntary termination of pregnancy in order to ensure full respect for sexual and reproductive rights (France);**

136.161 **Continue expanding access to voluntary termination of pregnancy in order to ensure the full recognition of sexual and reproductive rights (Iceland);**

136.162 **Reduce maternal, child and infant morbidity and mortality by promoting effective assistance measures during pregnancy and at the moment of birth (Iceland);**

136.163 **Improve health care to further reduce child mortality (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

136.164 **Develop further the National Policy of Primary Attention and the National Education Plan 2014-2024 (Israel);**

136.165 **Continue to take measures for improving quality of education, and reducing inequality of education caused by income level and social status (Japan);**

136.166 **Ensure adequate funding in implementing the National Education Plan, and undertake progress reports on its implementation to improve transparency and accountability (Malaysia);**

136.167 **Pursue efforts aimed at ensuring an inclusive education within the framework of the National Plan on Education 2014-2014, in particular in rural areas (Morocco);**

136.168 **Continue implementing high-quality intercultural education (Peru);**

136.169 **Promote educational opportunities to all children in accordance with the Incheon Declaration on Education 2030 (Republic of Korea);**

136.170 **Follow up on the implementation of the Incheon Declaration for inclusive and equitable quality education (Turkey);**

136.171 **Continue the implementation of the education plan of 2014-2016 (Sudan);**

136.172 **Increase investment in education infrastructure and promote the educational level in rural areas (China);**

136.173 **Improve the quality of public education, particularly for those who live below the poverty line, particularly Afro-Brazilians, with focus on psychological health and integrating psychosocial elements in order to achieve a better learning environment (Haiti);**

136.174 **Continue strengthening efforts to eliminate discrimination, including racial discrimination in education (Indonesia);**

136.175 **Set up plans promoting inclusive education of ethnic minorities, which have high levels of school dropout (Paraguay);**

136.176 **Continue to implement new policies and expand the coverage and scope of existing ones, to better promote gender equality, in particular for women in the countryside and low-income families (Singapore);**

136.177 **Adopt a law to protect vulnerable women, particularly low-income housewives (United Arab Emirates);**

136.178 **Continue the efforts to implement the "Women Living without Violence" programme launched in 2013 (Russian Federation);**

136.179 **Pursue efforts to combat violence against women and promote the rights of women (Sudan);**

136.180 **Continue efforts to combat violence, particularly against women (Tunisia);**

136.181 **Take measures to stop violence that has cost the lives of more than five thousand women, and caused more than 500,000 rapes in the last year (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

136.182 **Strengthen efforts to reduce gender inequalities including to prevent death resulting from violence against women, and to encourage increased reporting of cases of rape (Bahamas);**

136.183 **Extend the "Women Living without Violence" programme, with particular attention to women and girls living in the countryside and to women and girls of Afro-Brazilian descent (Belgium);**

136.184 **Continue its efforts to combat violence against women and girls (Egypt);**

136.185 **Combat domestic violence and high maternal mortality rates suffered by women, in compliance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Estonia);**

136.186 **Strengthen measures to eliminate violence and discrimination against women and girls, particularly in rural and remote areas (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

136.187 **Take measures to combat violence against women and children (Iraq);**

136.188 **Continue to adopt and implement effective measures to fight violence against women (Italy);**

136.189 **Strengthen its capacity-building programmes for judges and legal personnel on women's rights and violence against women (Thailand);**

136.190 **Strengthen the capacity of police in cases of violence against women by expanding training and developing protocols to respond to cases effectively (Canada);**

136.191 **Further strengthen mechanisms fostering prosecution of all perpetrators of sexual and gender-based violence (Slovakia);**

136.192 **Take measures to reduce the number of cases of violence against women and bring the perpetrators to justice (Togo);**

136.193 **Follow up on the infrastructure of safe houses for abused women and make sure the legal framework is widely implemented and reaches women's reality (Austria);**

136.194 **Increase its focus on policy implementation to combat family violence, and in particular violence against women and children (Australia);**

136.195 **Strengthen policies and programmes to address violence against women and combat child prostitution (Indonesia);**

136.196 **Ensure the effective implementation of measures to prevent, punish and eradicate all forms of violence and discrimination against women and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Mexico);**

136.197 **Further promote the participation of women in politics and government (Timor-Leste);**

136.198 **Put effective measures in place in order to increase the number of women at all levels of the decision-making process (Belgium);**

136.199 **Guarantee the rights of the child and create the best alternative for improving the current system of youth accountability, in compliance with the International Convention on the Rights of the Child (Estonia);**

136.200 **Adopt policies and programmes to strengthen the rights of children and adolescents in the field of education, training and health (United Arab Emirates);**

136.201 **Continue the efforts directed towards the promotion of the rights of the child (Armenia);**

136.202 **Prioritize family-type care settings and foster families over institutionalized placements and include foster care as an important instrument within the special protection measures for children (Serbia);**

136.203 **Further strengthen its efforts to enforce the "Boy Bernardo Act" and promote positive, non-violent and participatory forms of child-rearing and discipline (Liechtenstein);**

136.204 **Adopt comprehensive policies to combat sexual harassment, especially against children and adolescents, including those in street situations or living in placement institutions (Maldives);**

136.205 **Further strengthen programmes to address child labour, in particular through inspection, investigation, and preventative measures such as improving socioeconomic conditions for children and ensuring access to education (Liechtenstein);**

136.206 **Reject proposed Constitutional amendments and draft bills that seek to reduce the age of criminal responsibility (Uruguay);**

136.207 **Continue to eliminate discrimination against children in street situations and rural areas as well as children with disabilities and against other minority groups and take all necessary measures to prevent abuse of their vulnerabilities (Turkey);**

136.208 **Take all necessary measures to effectively eliminate the incidence of child, early and forced marriage (Sweden);**

136.209 **Continue its efforts to provide the necessary assistance for vulnerable groups, particularly persons with disabilities (Myanmar);**

136.210 **Pursue its commitment to ensure fully the respect of human rights of persons with disabilities, namely that these persons enjoy an adequate standard of living, including in rural areas (Portugal);**

136.211 **Continue its efforts to consolidate the rights of persons with disabilities (Egypt);**

136.212 **Combat discrimination of any kind against persons with disabilities, and take specific measures to improve the standard of living for such persons (Islamic Republic of Iran);**

136.213 **Continue to reinforce the implementation of public policies regarding persons with disabilities (Libya);**

136.214 **Continue its efforts on further strengthening the rights of women, children and persons with disabilities (Mongolia);**

136.215 **Implement measures in support of enhanced participation of people with disabilities in the workforce (Israel);**

136.216 **Continue its efforts to increase the level of employment of persons with disabilities in the open labour market and take specific measures for women with disabilities (State of Palestine);**

136.217 **Develop and implement policy to address child mortality, malnutrition, health, education and access to sanitation of indigenous people (South Africa);**

136.218 **Adopt effective measures to support Indigenous Peoples, including by ensuring food, health services, schools, and access to sanitary services and by creating conditions for higher incomes (Russian Federation);**

136.219 **Continue to promote the rights of communities of African descent, in particular children's rights (Senegal);**

136.220 **Continue to improve procedures to ensure the rights of people of African descent (El Salvador);**

136.221 **Ensure the equal access of Afro-Brazilians to poverty reduction policies and social security benefits as a means of protection of their fundamental rights (Botswana);**

136.222 **Continue proactive measures to promote rights of indigenous peoples as well as of the Afro-Brazilian population and ensure their well-being (Bangladesh);**

136.223 **Guarantee the constitutional rights of Indigenous peoples including by ensuring the National Indian Foundation has the necessary resources to carry out its work, particularly relating to the demarcation of Indigenous**

lands, and take measures to conclude investigations into all killings of Indigenous Peoples (Canada);

136.224 **Ensure that indigenous peoples and other minorities are protected against all forms of discrimination (Philippines);**

136.225 **Establish mechanisms to eradicate stigma and discrimination against indigenous groups and ethnic minorities, including awareness-raising among public officials, accountability and redress mechanisms (Mexico);**

136.226 **Ensure that the rights of indigenous people and respect of the environment and biodiversity are taken into due consideration in economic activities (Holy See);**

136.227 **Strengthen coordination between the Brazilian Institute of the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources and the Brazilian National Indian Foundation (Maldives);**

136.228 **Take measures to combat violence and discrimination against indigenous peoples (Togo);**

136.229 **Establish and implement a clear procedure for free, prior and informed consultation that would ensure full participation of indigenous peoples in the decision-making process regarding any major project impacting on their way of life (Republic of Moldova);**

136.230 **Guarantee adequate consultation and full participation of indigenous peoples in all legislative and administrative measures affecting them, protect indigenous people including indigenous human rights defenders from threats and attacks, and protect their land rights, in particular by strengthening protection programmers, completing pending land demarcation processes and providing adequate funding and capacity to the Indian National Foundation (FUNAI) (Germany);**

136.231 **Continue its efforts to establish effective consultation processes with indigenous communities with respect to any project that may affect the land or livelihoods of indigenous peoples (El Salvador);**

136.232 **Ensure an effective consultation process with indigenous peoples in all decision-making that might affect them (Estonia);**

136.233 **Ensure indigenous peoples adequate consultation as well as full participation in all legislative or administrative measures affecting them (Iceland);**

136.234 **Ensure that indigenous peoples are protected from threats, attacks and forced evictions (Norway);**

136.235 **Continue to invest in poverty alleviation policies and to ensure more effective and targeted implementation, so as to reduce social and economic inequality, in particular for rural populations and indigenous peoples (Singapore);**

136.236 **Adopt an effective plan of action for the demarcation of indigenous lands and provide the necessary financial resources to ensure an effective policy for the protection of the rights of indigenous peoples and to prevent land-related conflicts (Switzerland);**

136.237 **Continue its process of demarcation of indigenous lands (Peru);**

136.238 **Take necessary measures to resolve and prevent conflicts related to land issues and to complete the land demarcation processes deriving from Article 231 of the 1988 Constitution (France);**

136.239 **Speed up through executive action the processes of demarcation and protection of the lands of indigenous peoples and protect their respective rights (Cabo Verde);**

136.240 **Advance with the agenda for the indigenous peoples' right to free, prior and informed consent (Norway);**

136.241 **Strengthen human rights protection mechanisms for Indigenous Peoples, with special attention to ensure the human rights of indigenous girls and boys (Paraguay);**

136.242 **Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy on fighting discrimination and marginalization of indigenous peoples (Republic of Moldova);**

136.243 **Continue efforts aimed at fostering inclusive social dialogue with all ethnic groups in Brazilian society (Holy See);**

136.244 **Implement the recently approved new Migrants Law and its human rights perspective on the migration issue (Timor-Leste);**

136.245 **Implement the new Migrants Law fully (Greece);**

136.246 **Expand government-funded resettlement services to newly arrived refugees and ensure a right to an adequate standard of living through the establishment of a National Plan of Local Integration (Canada).**

137. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Brazil was headed by H.E Luislinda Dias de Valois Santos and composed of the following members:

- Fernando Simas Magalhães, Ambassador, Undersecretary General for Political Affairs, Europe and North America of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Maria Nazareth Farani Azevêdo, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva;
- Maria Helena Guimarães de Castro, Deputy Minister of Education;
- Marco Pellegrini, Special Secretary for the Rights of the Person with Disabilities;
- Juvenal Araújo Junior, Special Secretary of Policies for the Promotion of Racial Equality;
- Claudia Vidigal, National Secretary for the Rights of Children and Adolescents;
- João Lucas Quental Novaes de Almeida, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva;
- Pedro Luiz Dalcero, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva;
- Pedro Marcos de Castro Saldanha, Minister, Head of the Human Rights Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Nicola Speranza, Secretary, International Advisor, Ministry of Cities;
- Maria Auriana P. Diniz, International Advisor, Ministry of Education;
- Maria Inês Fini, President of the National Institute of Educational and Research and Studies — INEP, Ministry of Education;
- Thereza de Lamare, Director, Department of Programatic and Strategic and Actions, Ministry of Health;
- Carlos Eduardo da Cunha Oliveira, Counselor, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva;
- Durval Pereira, Secretary, Deputy Head of the Social Affairs Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Nathanael de Souza e Silva, Secretary, Advisor, Department of Human Rights and Social Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Cristina Vieira Machado Alexandre, Secretary, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva;
- Igor da Silva Barbosa, Secretary, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva;
- Comarci Eduardo Moreaux Nunes Filho, Secretary, Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Victoria Balthar de Sousa Santos, Secretary, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva;
- Ezequiel Gerd Chamorro Petersen, Secretary, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva;
- Márcia Canário de Oliveira, Secretary, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva;

- Juliana de Moura Gomes, Secretary, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva;
- Pablo Ângelo Sanges Ghetti, Secretary, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva;
- Carlos Henrique Zimmermann, Secretary, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva;
- Clara Martins Solon, Secretary, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva;
- Akemi Kamimura, Advisor, Special Secretariat for Human Rights;
- Leticia Antonio Quixadá, Advisor, Special Secretariat for Human Rights;
- Irina Abigail Teixeira Storni, Deputy Secretary for Institutional Articulation and Thematic Actions of the Special Secretariat of Policies for Women;
- Kilvia Cristina Teixeira Carneiro, Advisor, Special Secretariat of Policies for Women;
- Fabiana Arantes Campos Gadelha, Director of Thematic Policies of the National Secretariat for the Rights of Children and Adolescents;
- Anderson José Sant'Anna de Oliveira, Advisor to the Special Secretary for the Rights of the Person with Disabilities;
- Aydil Bezerra, Advisor, Ministry of Human Rights;
- Camila Costa Rabello, Advisor, Ministry of Human Rights;
- Marcia Pellegrini, Assistant to the Special Secretary for the Rights of the Person with Disabilities;
- Mirtis Matsuura, Press Officer and Official Photographer, Ministry of Human Rights;
- Bruna Elis da Silva Lopes, Advisor to the Special Secretary of Policies for the Promotion of Racial Equality;
- Gabriela Cruz da Silva, Advisor to the Special Secretary of Policies for the Promotion of Racial Equality.